



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Regional Pipeline Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Date:	February 4, 2015
Time:	2:00 p.m.
Location:	JWO Transit Center, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield, MA
Duration:	2 hours
Facilitators:	Linda Dunlavy, FRCOG Executive Director and Peggy Sloan, Planning Director

Attendees:

- Ted Cady, Town of Warwick & FRPB
- John Wheeler, Town of Shelburne
- Tom Miner, FRPB
- Marcella Morgan, Town of Conway
- Tracy Rogers, Town of Northfield
- Ariel Elan, Town of Montague
- Carolyn Shores Ness, Town of Deerfield
- Joseph Judd, Town of Shelburne
- Joe Strzegowski, Town of Conway
- Jim Cutler, Town of Ashfield

Staff:

- Linda Dunlavy, Executive Director
- Peggy Sloan, Planning Director

1 – Introductions and Overview of Purpose of Regional Pipeline Advisory Committee: Linda Dunlavy

L. Dunlavy outlined the purpose of the Regional Pipeline Advisory Committee which is to provide information and technical assistance to the communities along the proposed Kinder Morgan (KM)/TGP pipeline route and to provide a platform for communities to share information, pool resources and collaborate on a regional basis. The FRCOG has not taken a position on the pipeline and views its role as providing support and technical assistance to the eight towns along the proposed pipeline route and to facilitate information exchange among the towns and other regions.

The FRCOG can provide technical assistance on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) permitting process including obtaining “Intervenor” status; identifying potential impacts and studies needed for the Scoping Session that will be conducted by FERC; conducting GIS mapping and analysis of impacts to natural and cultural resources along the proposed pipeline route; and organizing workshops on construction and operation impacts that towns will need to address if the pipeline is

approved by FERC. The FRCOG is also coordinating with other Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) to exchange information, conduct regional workshops, and to prepare for participating in the FERC permitting process.

Discussion among Committee members followed.

2 – Presentation and Discussion on FERC Permitting Process and Potential Impacts of Proposed KM/TGP Pipeline: P. Sloan & Committee Members

P. Sloan gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FERC permitting process including important timelines and how to obtain Intervenor status. Also outlined were potential impacts from the construction and operation of the pipeline. A copy of the presentation is available upon request. Discussion followed on the process of obtaining Intervenor Status and its importance.

C. Ness provided information on Deerfield's Board of Health legal efforts to address potential impacts to public health posed by the pipeline.

P. Sloan provided information on the UMASS study being led by Scott Jackson to evaluate natural resource impacts along the proposed pipeline route.

3 – Discussion of Potential Strategies: L. Dunlavy & Committee Members

L. Dunlavy outlined another strategy for communities to consider in addition to participating in the FERC permitting process. Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) has been working with their communities to evaluate the advantages of negotiating a "Host Community Agreement" with the pipeline company. The Host Community Agreement can address the construction and operation impacts associated with the pipeline if it is approved by FERC. The Town of Richmond was successful in negotiating a Host Community Agreement with a pipeline company for another pipeline recently approved by FERC. Committee members requested FRCOG staff to invite BRPC to attend the next meeting to share information about the services they are providing to their communities as well as possible strategies to address the pipeline, including negotiating Host Community Agreements.

P. Sloan provided information on the schedule of Open Houses that will be conducted by Kinder Morgan. The Open House in Franklin County will be held at Greenfield Community College on February 5, 2015 starting at 6:00 p.m. P. Sloan provided a Draft list of possible questions that Committee members may want to ask if they attend an Open House. Discussion followed.

4 – Next Meeting Date/Other Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting/Adjourn: Linda Dunlavy

FRCOG is coordinating with BRPC to hold a workshop on Pipeline Safety in Franklin County. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.

Copies of the handouts are available. Please contact P. Sloan at psloan@frcog.org or 413-774-3167 x133.