



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin Regional Planning Board Executive Committee Minutes

*November 9, 2015, 2:30 p.m.
John W. Olver Transit Center, 12 Olive Street
2nd Floor Library, Greenfield*

Attendance

FRPB Executive Committee Members

S. Lovejoy, 1st Vice Chair
T. Miner, 2nd Vice Chair
J. Rockwell, Clerk
T. Cady
J. Basford

FRCOG Staff

Peggy Sloan, Director of Planning & Development

Actions

S. Lovejoy called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed the minutes for the previous meeting.

The FRPB Executive Committee reviewed the agenda items for the November/December 2015 Franklin Regional Planning Board meeting and requested a presentation by UMass on Best Practices to Increase Resiliency to Flooding as recommended by C. Olchowski. Also requested were updates on the proposed Kinder Morgan-TGP pipeline and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Facility FERC Relicensing.

With respect to the proposed Kinder Morgan-TGP NED pipeline project, the company is expected to submit an Application to FERC on November 20, 2015. If the Application is accepted as adequate by FERC, the 21 day window (unless extended by FERC) will begin for individuals, towns, and other agencies to submit their requests for Intervenor Status. Related to the pipeline is the proposed House Bill #3690 which might facilitate the granting of an easement to construct a gas pipeline in Sandisfield through protected open space owned by the MA DCR. If passed, this bill might set a precedent for the NED pipeline project that is also seeking easements through protected open space.

The Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership project is entering the next phase. The Plan has been completed and the Advisory Committee has been working on a business plan and governance structure. A regional information session to present the Final Draft of the plan is scheduled for November 18, 2015.

First Light has released several completed studies which have been submitted to FERC for its application in 2016 for renewal of the license for the Northfield Pumped Storage facility and the Cabot Station generators. The company has asked FERC for authorization to use the extra storage capacity of the upper reservoir from December to March for the remainder of the license. FRCOG staff is reviewing the studies and will be preparing comments.

Votes

The minutes of October 5, 2015 were moved by T. Cady. J. Rockwell seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved.

T. Miner moved to recommend to the FRCOG Executive Committee that the FRCOG submit a letter urging our legislative delegation to oppose House Bill #3690. S. Lovejoy seconded motion. Unanimously approved.

T. Miner moved to adjourn. J. Rockwell seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.