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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2105

November 14, 2019

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RECEIVED

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Select Board/Town Mgr.
Town of Longmeadow

Marie Angelides
20 Williams St
Longmeadow, MA 01106-1950

Dear Marie:

Thank you for contacting me about energy infrastructure in Massachusetts.

I have heard strong concerns from constituents about proposed or ongoing pipeline projects and the impacts that they could have on our communities in Massachusetts. These projects include the Atlantic Bridge Project, particularly the Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) pipeline and its associated compressor and meter stations. I have also heard concerns about the process that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) uses to review these projects.

It is critical that we ensure that our energy infrastructure is safe. This is especially true as FERC considers projects that would site high-pressure pipelines through densely populated communities. That is why I have publicly called for FERC to rescind its Atlantic Bridge authorization and implored the Commission to fully engage with the affected communities and Massachusetts' elected officials to make sure that their concerns are heard and that this review is not expedited at the expense of safety. As you may know, the proposed AIM Project would locate facilities in Massachusetts near residential areas, schools, and even an active quarry. Safety considerations must be taken seriously where communities have grown around this infrastructure. The people of Massachusetts should be given a chance to provide more input about these new facilities because our residents must live with the potential consequences of the project.

I am also concerned about leaky gas pipelines that cause methane to be released into the air. These leaks contribute to climate change and undermine potential environmental benefits associated with the use of natural gas. These leaks also raise costs for consumers and can pose serious safety risks. That is why it is so alarming that, according to a study conducted by the Home Energy Efficiency Team, there are approximately 20,000 gas leaks in natural gas pipelines in Massachusetts alone. I was an original cosponsor of the American Energy Innovation Act of 2015, a comprehensive energy bill introduced by Senator Maria Cantwell that would allocate \$3.5 billion to incentivize states to improve the safety and environmental performance of natural gas pipelines.

Families throughout New England rely on a variety of fuels to keep warm during the winter. In the case of natural gas and fuel oil—the two most common fuels for heating homes in Massachusetts—prices in the state are frequently higher than the national average. I am deeply concerned about energy costs in New England, particularly in the wake of harsh winters over the last several years. I believe that the best way to bring down costs over the long run is to invest in new renewable energy sources, support energy efficiency initiatives that reduce fuel consumption, and provide fuel assistance to those families with the greatest need.

I appreciate your reaching out to me about this important issue, and please do not hesitate to contact me in the future about issues of importance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Warren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator