

October 9, 2009

«Suffix» «First» «Mid» «Last» «JrSr»
«Address»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Suffix» «Last»:

Empire Pipeline Inc., a subsidiary of National Fuel Gas Company, plans to seek federal approval to construct a new natural gas pipeline in your area. As you know, this area has recently experienced extensive drilling and development of natural gas wells. These wells have the potential to bring abundant supplies of domestic, clean-burning natural gas to consumers in your region and beyond. In order for those supplies of natural gas to be delivered to customers, additional natural gas transmission facilities will need to be built. Empire Pipeline Inc. has extensive experience and a successful track record of developing, constructing and operating natural gas pipelines and has been requested by local producers to build this required infrastructure in your area.

You are being contacted at this time and provided with this information because your property appears to be located on or near one of the paths that we are now examining for the pipeline route. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which has oversight and approval authority over this project, recommends that we identify and consider a number of possible routes and engage the public and permitting agencies to determine which of the alternatives is the most suitable route. After we complete a field analysis in the area and gather more information from property owners like you and other parties, we will be able to better define the best route for the pipeline.

Our project will include the construction of approximately 16 miles of a 24-inch pipeline. The project will begin at the New York/Pennsylvania State Line just west of John Hill Road in Jackson Township, PA, and end near the Columbia Gas compressor station on Quackenbush Hill just north of West Road in Corning Township, NY. We intend to submit our application to the FERC in July 2010, in anticipation of construction beginning in the spring of 2011 and a targeted completion date in late summer 2011.

We want to provide you and the other property owners along the possible route alternatives with as much information as possible about the project and your rights as a landowner. To that end, we'd like to invite you to attend an open meeting where Company representatives will be present to answer questions about the project and provide detailed maps of the proposed routes.

Project Meeting: Monday, October 19, 2009
Radisson Hotel – Corning
125 Denison Parkway East
Corning, NY 14830
Meeting to begin at 7:00 p.m.

More information about your rights and ways to become involved in this process can be found on FERC's Web site (<http://www.ferc.gov/for-citizens/get-involved.asp>). This information from the FERC will also be available at our project meeting.

Shortly after the open meeting is conducted, you will be contacted by a Company representative who will request your permission to perform surveys on your property. These surveys will provide us with the data needed to help determine the most suitable route for this pipeline project. Factors used in making this determination include, but are not limited to: the presence of streams and wetlands and other areas of environmental or archeological sensitivity, the presence of threatened and endangered species, pipeline engineering issues, site conditions (including locations of buildings, drain tiles, wells, and other natural and manmade features), geological conditions and cost. Please know that granting permission to survey in no way obligates a landowner to provide a right-of-way for the pipeline. However, it does ensure that both the landowner and the Company have the information needed to make a good decision.

For whichever route is selected, affected property owners will be offered fair compensation for the use of their land and for temporary economic loss caused by construction. Historically, the presence of a natural gas pipeline, which is buried a minimum of three feet underground, has not reduced property values. In addition, Empire is committed to restoring the areas affected during construction to original or better condition, and allowing the continued use of the land for agricultural and recreational purposes.

Please be assured that the purpose of our work is preliminary in nature and is intended to cause no inconvenience to you, nor will your granting of permission to access your property obligate you to anything in the future. Once our plans are further developed, we will provide additional information regarding any subsequent activity on or near your property.

National Fuel Gas Company, incorporated in 1902, is a diversified energy company that already has a strong presence in the New York and Pennsylvania region. Empire Pipeline Inc. is part of National Fuel's Pipeline and Storage segment, which has a long history of building and maintaining safe and reliable transmission pipelines and now owns and operates 2,800 miles of interstate natural gas pipelines, all of which are located in New York and Pennsylvania. We welcome questions and feedback about the project and look forward to working with the community along the proposed pipeline corridor as the project moves forward.

I will serve as the primary contact for property owners and other interested parties. Please do not hesitate to contact me via e-mail at james@natfuel.com, toll-free at 1-800-677-8004, or by mail at National Fuel, Corporate Communications, PO Box 2081, 1100 State Street, Erie, PA 16512-2081, if you have any questions. I have enclosed a question form you can use if you wish to submit questions in writing and so that we may respond to you in a complete fashion. We look forward to working with you on this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra L. James". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Sandra L. James
Assistant Director
Corporate Communications

Enclosure