## TOWN OF HINGHAM

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

Paul K. Healey, Chairman Paul J. Gannon Mary M. Power



Ted C. Alexiades
Town Administrator

April 19, 2017

Cheryl A. LaFleur, Acting Chairman Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE, Room 1A Washington, DC 20426

Secretary Matthew A. Beaton Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs MEPA Office 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114 Lisa Berry Engler, Boston Harbor Regional Coordinator Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management 251 Causeway Street, Suite 800 Boston, MA 02114

Jason Burtner, CZM South Shore Regional Coordinator c/o Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary 175 Edward Foster Road Scituate, MA 02066

Dear Ms. LaFleur, Mr. Beaton, Ms. Engler and Mr. Burtner:

The Town of Hingham has been monitoring the proposed compressor station in North Weymouth as well as the dialogue surrounding the project. The project site is less than two miles from Hingham, and as such we are very interested in limiting potential negative impacts that may result from this facility.

We feel strongly that before this project and any future expansion of the facility and related infrastructure is allowed to move forward more information is needed to guide any decision. This should include, but not be limited to studies on the potential impacts to local and regional tourism, economic development, the safety and welfare of the public (both from the facility as well as from potential catastrophic failures), and the transportation network. This has the potential to be a large, impactful project on the South Shore both as built, and, in the event of catastrophic failure. As such, we feel it must be thoroughly reviewed and vetted.

11/18

Sincerely

Ted Alexiades
Town Administrator

CC: Charles D. Baker, Governor

Stephen Lynch, Congressman

Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator

Ed Markey, U.S. Senator

Patrick O'Connor, State Senator

James Murphy, State Representative

Joan Meschino, State Representative

Robert Hedlund, Mayor, Weymouth

Thomas Koch, Mayor, Quincy

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Whereas, The Town of Hingham may have property within an estimated blast radius/fallout zone and as such, Hingham residents and property could be at risk

Whereas, The Town of Hingham's public safety departments would be strained due to direct and mutual aid responsibilities in the event of a catastrophic failure at the plant

Whereas, The Fore River Bridge carries approximately 35,000 vehicle trips per day which would be re-routed through the neighborhoods of Quincy, Weymouth and Hingham if the Bridge were damaged or closed, thereby adversely affecting the quality of life of Hingham residents

Whereas, Any disruption of the Route 3A corridor, including the Fore River Bridge, a vital state highway that connects the coastal south shore region to the economic center of Boston, would introduce the risk for significant negative economic impacts for the Town of Hingham

Whereas, The operation of the natural gas compressor station will not provide jobs or economic stimulus to the region as the station will be controlled remotely from Houston, Texas

Whereas, Sufficient data has not been presented to allow for a thorough understanding of the effects that the operations of a natural gas compressor station would have on a densely populated region, including noise, odor and air quality

Therefore, the Town of Hingham opposes this project as it is currently proposed.

Given on this day, the thirteenth of April 2017, at a duly posted public meeting of the Hingham Board of Selectmen



Hingham Board of Selectmen

