

Environmental Stewardship Mission Group

Alerts NH Churches and Communities about the Granite Bridge Pipeline

The Environmental Stewardship Mission Group sponsored the New England Youth Environmental Justice Summit in April 2018. Environmental Justice addresses the impacts that environmental pollutants and changes have on ecological, racial, social, economic, and other justice issues. The participants in the Summit learned about our moral obligation to Care for God's Creation which includes all of us, all of God's creatures, and all of the earth- the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the soil that grows our food.

One ecological issue participants learned about was the proposed Granite Bridge Pipeline that will directly affect 8 of our NH communities as well as other communities in NH and in other states. Liberty Utilities is proposing a 27-mile long pipeline to transport FRACKED GAS from Manchester to Stratham, through the 8 towns of Manchester, Auburn, Candia, Raymond, Brentwood, Epping, Exeter, and Stratham. The town of Epping is slated to be the site of a 2 BILLION cubic foot LNG (liquefied natural gas) tank of METHANE (enough for the entire state of NJ).

Fracked Gas is a fossil fuel obtained by hydraulic fracturing, pumping fluids down into the ground to force the gas up and polluting underground aquifers, the source of our drinking water. Methane is worse than carbon dioxide for causing global warming and climate change. Transporting the fracked gas risks inevitable spills, causing polluted water. The best motto for fossil fuels is to "Keep It In the Ground" (KIITG.org).

Although Liberty Utilities plans the pipeline to follow Route 101, the property values in those 8 towns will suffer, and spills will threaten their drinking water. Future abatements Liberty Utilities will nullify any temporary monetary gains with the present price of gas.

The Environmental Stewardship Mission Group (ESMG) suggests that churches and other groups in the affected communities coordinate to research the effects of a fracked gas pipeline in their communities. The communities in southern NH successfully rejected the NED (North East Direct) fracked gas Pipeline by uniting their churches and community efforts. The ESGM suggests that churches and communities along Rt 101

contact any of the following speakers or resources to address your congregation or community group about the Pipeline.

1-Stephanie Scherr, Director of "EchoActionNH", website "EchoAction.org", or call 603-562-6025. There are weekly Conference calls, usually Mon at 7PM (except Wed 6/7) about Granite Bridge Pipeline. Call Stephanie for details.

2-Lila Kohrman-Glaser at lila@350nh.org

3-joeperry603@gmail.com from Epping group already addressing these pipeline issues.

4-Liz McConnell at 603-772-7484 (h) or 770-3883 (c) who has already met with the Peace and Justice group of Pilgrim Church and the Brentwood Congregational Church.

Submitted by Sue Moore of the Environmental Stewardship Mission Group