RESOLUTION 2013 - /

A RESOLUTION OF
EAST NANTMEAL TOWNSHIP,
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
OPPOSING THE
COMMONWEALTH PIPELINE PROJECT

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Pipeline, an entity consisting of Inergy Midstream, L.P., UGI Energy Services, Inc. and Capitol Energy Ventures, a subsidiary of WGL Holdings, Inc., proposes the construction of a new pipeline for the transfer and delivery of natural gas generated by deep well "fracking" in areas of Marcellus and Utica Shale in New York and Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 30-inch underground pipeline would extend approximately 120 miles from Lycoming County, Pennsylvania to Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania crossing through Lycoming, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Berks and Chester Counties; and

WHEREAS, as currently proposed, the pipeline would traverse the eastern end of East Nantmeal Township and occupy a clear-cut right-of-way one hundred feet in width which could not be planted or forested in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, the proposed route of the pipeline would cause or contribute to the following adverse impacts to East Nantmeal Township:

A. The pipeline would cross six streams in East Nantmeal categorized as Exceptional Value by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, crossing the south branch of French Creek and Beaver Run, at least five times.

B. The pipeline would impact the Hopewell Big Woods, the last large unbroken forest in southeastern Pennsylvania which is stewarded by the Hopewell Big Woods Partnership, a group of over 30 government agencies, private non-profits and municipal entities, causing potential damage to plant and bird species, pristine forest and unique wetlands.

C. The pipeline would invade the area known as the Mid-Atlantic Highlands region extending from Connecticut through Pennsylvania, which was designated for conservation assistance by the federal Highlands Conservation Act, parts of which have been identified by the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service as lands that have high conservation value.

D. The pipeline would further impact the wildlife inhabiting the Hopewell Big Woods, which is an area designated by Pennsylvania Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area used by over 170 bird species and by the Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation as an Important Mammal Area.
E. The pipeline as proposed would negatively impact municipally-owned open space, county and state-owned parks and game lands, privately held residences, agricultural lands and farms, open space and scenic vistas.

F. The pipeline and the construction of compressor and metering stations as proposed would impact ground water which our residents depend on for domestic consumption, wetlands, springs, vernal ponds and streams, all of which are highly valued by residents and visitors, necessary for our way of life, and irreplaceable.

G. The pipeline as proposed would invade habitat of species protected by the federal Endangered Species Act, such as the bog turtle and various plants and other animals protected by federal and state law.

H. The pipeline as proposed would present a significant safety hazard to East Nantmeal Township residents.

WHEREAS, the proposed pipeline would adversely affect East Nantmeal Township residents by lowering property values, raising health concerns, and negatively impacting farms, residences, businesses and charitable entities.

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of East Nantmeal Township has the responsibility to conserve for current residents and future generations the natural and historic resources of the Township and has enacted legislation through the Township zoning and other ordinances to protect and conserve these resources; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of its conservation responsibility, the Board of Supervisors has engaged expert legal counsel to represent the Township’s interests in opposition to the Pipeline project as currently proposed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of East Nantmeal Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. For all of the reasons set forth hereinabove, the Board of Supervisors of East Nantmeal Township opposes and objects to the design, route and construction of the Commonwealth Pipeline as currently proposed.

2. The Board of Supervisors calls for a moratorium on any and all planning for the Commonwealth Pipeline project and that any such project, if approved, be removed from the pristine reaches of East Nantmeal Township and Chester County, Pennsylvania.

3. The Board of Supervisors encourages other municipalities, government entities, conservation organizations and individuals to join the Township’s opposition to the Commonwealth Pipeline; and to enter their appearance and participate in any proceeding before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Delaware River Basin Commission, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and any other regulatory authority in
order to demonstrate united and substantial opposition to the Commonwealth Pipeline project as currently proposed.

4. The Board of Supervisors designates Vice-Chairman Tyler E. Wren as the Board’s representative to coordinate the Township’s opposition to the Commonwealth Pipeline, subject to the approval of the Board for any official action as defined by law.

5. A copy of this Resolution certified by the Township Secretary shall be forwarded to those municipal, Chester County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and United States elected and appointed representatives and officials designated by the Board of Supervisors.

RESOLVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of February, 2013 at a duly advertised public meeting.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EAST NANTMEAL TOWNSHIP

[Signatures]

James R. Jenkins, Jr, Chairman

Tyler E. Wren, Vice-Chairman

William J. Cochrane, Member

Attest:

Kathleen Brumfield, Secretary