

RESOLUTION 8-2013

**A RESOLUTION OF WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP,
CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
OPPOSING THE COMMONWEALTH PIPELINE PROJECT**

THIS RESOLUTION is adopted by the Board of Supervisors of West Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the 28th of January 2013.

BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

WHEREAS, Commonwealth Pipeline, an entity consisting of Inergy Midstream, L.P., UGI Energy Services, Inc. and 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 pipeline is approximately 120 miles long of 30-inch buried pipe crossing parts of Lycoming, Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Schuylkill, Berks, and Chester Counties; and

WHEREAS, as currently proposed, the pipeline cuts through West Vincent Township, Chester County, causing of contributing to the following:

- A. The proposed route of the buried pipeline route crosses at least two (2) Exceptional Value streams in West Vincent Township, which are tributaries of Birchrun Creek; and
- B. The proposed route crosses properties which were purchased with state open space funds, county open space funds, and West Vincent Township Open Space funds, other properties which are subject to conservation easements, and properties of pristine woods, hunting grounds and virginal lands; and
- C. The proposed route impacts the Hopewell Big Woods, causing damage to wildlife and plant life in an area of global significance. Both the Natural Wildlife and the Nature Conservancy have determined that this region of the Hopewell Big Woods is the most important conservation area; and
- D. The proposed route of the pipeline invades and damages the area known as “Highland Conservation,” a region extending from Connecticut to Virginia, as determined by the federal Highlands Conservation Act, PL 108-421 to be of the national and international importance in protecting and preserving large swathes of forest and open

space. Of the Highland Conservation area, Hopewell Big Woods is the most important. The Hopewell Big Woods has been recognized as by The Nature Conservancy as the largest mature block of forest in the Northern Piedmont sub-core region between Washington DC and New York City. The global diversity of the Hopewell Big Woods has been reinforced through its designation by the Pennsylvania Audubon Society as an Important Bird Area used by over 170 bird species who rely on this intact forest and by the Pennsylvania Wildlife Federation as an Important Mammal Area; and

- E. The proposed route will impact the Township owned open space, privately held open space and scenic vistas, the new West Vincent Elementary School and numerous private homes; and
- F. The proposed route, and the construction of pump stations along the way, will impact ground water which our residents depend on for domestic consumption, wetlands, springs, vernal ponds and Exceptional and High Quality designated streams which are highly valued by residents and visitors, necessary for our way of life and are irreplaceable; and
- G. The proposed route of pipelines invades habitat of species protected by the Endangered Species Act, such as the bog turtle and various plants and animals protected by federal and state law.

WHEREAS, the proposed pipeline causes damage to West Vincent Township residents by lowering property values, raising health concerns, impacting farms, residences, and businesses.

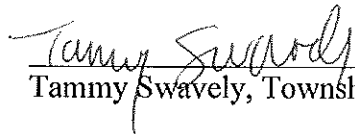
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of West Vincent Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. The Board of Supervisors does hereby object to the design and construction of a 30-inch pipeline passing through and under West Vincent Township, Chester County. The construction and operation of the pipeline will significantly damage Exceptional Value protected streams, wildlife habitat, existing farm operations, numerous homes, the West Vincent Elementary School, and the quality of life in West Vincent Township.
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 pristine reaches of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

3. The Board of Supervisors objects and seeks the cooperation of other similarly located and affected townships, asking that all nearby affected townships adopt a similar resolution.
4. The Board of Supervisors adopt, and call upon similarly situated municipalities to adopt a resolution authorizing each Township to join together to enter their appearance in any proceeding before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Delaware River Basin Commission, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and any other regulatory authority, so that by their strength of numbers they may successfully oppose the Commonwealth Pipeline project and have the ability to cause the relocation or termination of the project so as to prevent environmental degradation and to protect the environment as envisioned by Section 27 of Article 1 of the Pennsylvania Constitution.

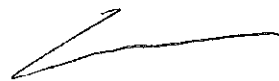
Approved this 28th day of January, 2013

Attest:

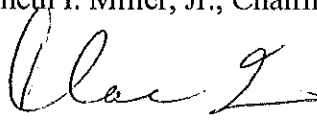


Tammy Swavely, Township Secretary

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Kenneth I. Miller, Jr., Chairman



Clare Quinn, Vice Chairman



David Brown, Member