

From: Marilyn Learner
To: FERGAS

Subject: FE Docket No. 14–179–LNG

Date: Monday, February 09, 2015 12:58:33 PM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

In the matter of:		
)		
Pieridae Energy (USA) Ltd.)	FE Docket No. 14–179–LNC
)		
)		

MOTION FOR LEAVE TO INTERVENE AND PROTEST OF PIERIDAE

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. 590.303, NHPLAN files this motion to intervene in the above-captioned docket. In opposition, NHPLAN states as follows:

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Any communications regarding this pleading should be addressed to:

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II. BACKGROUND

On October 24, 2014, Pieridae Energy (USA) Ltd. ("Pieridae") filed an application with the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy ("DOE/FE") seeking a long-term multicontract authorization to export domestically produced liquefied natural gas ("LNG") up to the equivalent of 292 billion cubic feet ("Bcf") of natural gas per year to non-Free Trade Agreement ("nonFTA") countries, via export into Canada via pipeline and re-exporting some or all of that gas as LNG from a proposed terminal in Goldboro, Nova Scotia.

III. PROTEST AND INTERVENTION

Our organization is a grassroots organization of citizens who oppose the Kinder Morgan Northeast Direct (NED) pipeline project. We are New Hampshire based and we work with similar organizations in Massachusetts and New York.

For the last several months our group has been working to raise awareness of the Kinder Morgan Northeast Energy Direct ("NED") pipeline project and that project's potential to harm the local environment, increase the long term use of fossil fuels, assess ratepayers for the costs of pipeline construction, and send natural gas overseas instead of using it for domestic purposes. It is clear upon reading the Pieridae application (page 20 & Appendix E) that its export plans would likely depend on the completion of the Kinder Morgan project and/or an alternative plan [Access Northeast and Atlantic Bridge] by Spectra Energy.

Pieridae's application must acknowledge the fact that pipeline capacity from the Marcellus shale to Goldboro sufficient for its plan does not currently exist. Under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") the environmental impact of a new pipeline construction must be considered. In particular, NED is not the expansion of an existing pipeline on an existing right of way; it is a greenfield project with a proposed capacity of up to 2.2 billion cubic feet per day. The new route for this project announced on December 8, 2014 would create a brand new pipeline right of way that would impinge upon the rights of thousands of homeowners and landowners to enjoy their properties. It would cross conservation lands and forests, the water supplies of several towns in this area, and it would endanger the safety of residents due to the proximity of the route for this high-pressure pipeline to highly developed neighborhoods, other utility easements, active quarries, and sewer lines that often undergo maintenance and construction.

Approval of the Pieridae export plan would not only drive the development of large pipelines, but it could result in the depletion of natural gas winter storage and peak supply that are critical to all of New England. In 2014, natural gas "inventories fell 1,000 Bcf below the five-year average in mid-April," according to EIA

(http://www.eia.gov/forecasts/steo/report/natgas.cfm, accessed 2/8/15). That reduction in inventory was largely responsible for high spot prices for gas in January through October of 2014. Exporting 292 billion cubic feet of natural gas from this region would result in lower inventories of gas and thus, would contribute to higher New England gas prices than if these exports are not allowed.

Because *NHPLAN* represents landowners who are located in towns along the proposed route of the NED pipeline, referenced in the Pieridae application (Appendix E-3, E-4) as a possible source for gas, NHPLAN thus has a direct and immediate interest in this docket which cannot be adequately protected by any other party. Accordingly, NHPLAN should be permitted to intervene in this docket with full rights as a party.

IV. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, *NHPLAN* respectfully requests that DOE/FE grant this timely motion to intervene and that *NHPLAN* be accorded fully party status in any proceedings held by DOE/FE in this docket.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Learner

Anne Dicicco New Hampshire Pipeline Awareness Network NHPLAN

Sent from my iPad