**ISSUE: CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER AND SOIL IN PROXIMITY TO THE PROPOSED COMPRESSOR STATION 206**

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Dear FERC Leadership:

I am an intervenor in the Northeast Supply Enhancement Project (CP17-101), and I am concerned about potential impacts of Compressor Station 206 construction, along with blasting from nearby Trap Rock Quarry, on and/or from the contamination at the Higgins Farm NPL Superfund Site.

In the DEIS (page 5-3), FERC staff wrote: “The EPA finds, and we agree, that construction and operation of Compressor Station 206 as proposed by Transco is unlikely to encounter contamination associated with the Higgins Farm site or affect EPA’s ongoing cleanup operations at the site.”

I understand that the EPA was a cooperating participant in completion of the DEIS.

“Unlikely” does not provide certainty. It has been brought to the attention of FERC that the EPA plans another 5-year review at this site in 2018, and I request that any “final” conclusion about the potential for adverse impacts from/to the Compressor Station 206 site (including the workspace) and the remediation at the Higgins Farm NPL Superfund Site, not be made until that study is completed, reviewed and made available for public review.

In the DEIS (page 4-27), FERC staff note that “EPA expects VOC concentrations in groundwater to continue to decline, but states that continued evaluation is necessary to confirm contaminant concentration reduction and the downgradient extent of contaminants (EPA, 2014).” Here, they further note that “Groundwater flow generally follows topography under non-pumping conditions and is toward the south and southeast (towards Compressor Station 206),” and: “Based on groundwater monitoring results, the PCE plume (one of the primary VOCs of concern) is about 400 feet from construction workspaces at Compressor Station 206 and about 850 feet from the proposed compressor building.”

FERC staff further note that “the highest water level elevation measured in EPA monitoring wells on the compressor station site is about 30 feet below the proposed facility, whereas Transco anticipates a maximum excavation depth of 15 feet at the site. Transco’s construction plans were reviewed by the EPA, who is assisting us in our environmental review of the NESE Project.” (DEIS, page 5-3)

However, the construction of the compressor station is not on the ground where the four EPA monitoring wells are, and there was no reporting about investigations of unanticipated plumes of contaminants under the ground where Williams/Transco proposes to construct the compressor station building, communication tower, or other ground-disturbing features of NESE.

Additionally, there has not been an analysis of the potential impact of blasting and other industrial activities at Trap Rock Quarry COMBINED WITH construction of the proposed Compressor Station 206 on the remediation efforts at Higgins Farm NPL Superfund Site.

Therefore, I request that FERC (1) obtain the EPA’s 2018 five-year review of the Higgins Farm NPL Site remediation efforts and, once published and analyzed with its cooperating agency, the EPA, issue a revised or supplemental draft EIA with at least an additional 45-day review period, and (2) complete an analysis of the combined impacts from construction at the compressor station site along with blasting at Trap Rock Quarry to make a determination about the impact of both on and/or to the Higgins Farm NPL Superfund site. Again, publishing this on the FERC docket and allowing at least an additional 45-day period of time for the public to review it is needed to allow for true public participation in this process.