

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE GENERAL COURT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

October 10, 2017

The Honorable Governor Charles D. Baker
Massachusetts State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker,

As we expressed in our previous letter dated August 1st, the State Senators and Representatives of Weymouth, Quincy, Braintree, Hingham, Hull and other surrounding South Shore communities sincerely appreciate your commitment to a thorough public health impact review of the Fore River Basin, before any consideration of the proposed compressor station is allowed to continue.

All of us firmly believe that this compressor station would significantly damage and threaten an area that is already overburdened with regard to industrial emissions and air toxins. We are confident that a health impact review will confirm what many believe is already apparent – that this compressor station should not be approved by state licensing agencies.

We write today to reemphasize the critical importance of conducting a transparent, impartial, and independent review of this project. Residents are already deeply concerned that this process may be unduly influenced by the applicant. They have good cause for these fears, as we have already learned that Spectra (now Enbridge) was allowed to view and edit the conditions of a draft permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection, and that a participant in the Federal review of this project had been employed by Spectra and has a financial interest in pipeline expansions associated with this compressor station.

In addition to our reemphasis of the need for a transparent impact review, we write also to request clarification and publication of the administration's procedure as we move forward with the impact review and permitting process:

- **Clear guidelines and criteria:** All participants, local officials, and residents should be clearly informed of the processes that this health impact review will follow, the variables that will be measured, and the criteria that will be used for decision making. It should be clear to all, from the beginning, that the Commonwealth will base its conclusions and recommendations on the best available scientific knowledge relative to the health of residents and the environment.
- **Open communication and ample notice of events and activities:** We ask for an accessible and detailed schedule of activities relevant to this review. All stakeholders should know when, where, and how critical measurements are taken throughout the region, and should have advance notice and access to any meetings or discussions taking place on this subject.


- **Public access to all relevant documents:** We ask for a publicly accessible online portal for this review, so that interested stakeholders and residents can read all correspondence, testimony, evidence and data that is informing the review. This should be a prominent one-stop location where all the relevant information submitted to any agency can be accessed.
- **Commitment of resources for a robust process:** We ask for a strong commitment of resources, so that the agencies and bureaus responsible for the health impact review can be focused, diligent and successful in carrying out their responsibilities. We hope for clarity on the number and professional expertise of the persons assigned to this review, resources available to them, and assurances that agency budgets will appropriately reflect the importance of this review.

Thank you, again, for the steps you have taken so far on this matter. We appreciate your time, consideration, and reply to this letter, and ask that you take an assertive role in directing a transparent and impartial approach to this project. We look forward to addressing any questions you may have about this letter.

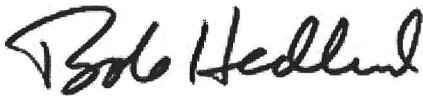
Respectfully,



Patrick M. O'Connor
State Senator
Plymouth & Norfolk




John F. Keenan
State Senator
Norfolk & Plymouth



Robert L. Hedlund
Mayor
Town of Weymouth



James M. Murphy
State Representative
4th Norfolk



Thomas P. Koch
Mayor
City of Quincy



Joseph C. Sullivan
Mayor
City of Braintree



Ronald Mariano
House Majority Leader
3rd Norfolk



Bruce J. Ayers
State Representative
1st Norfolk



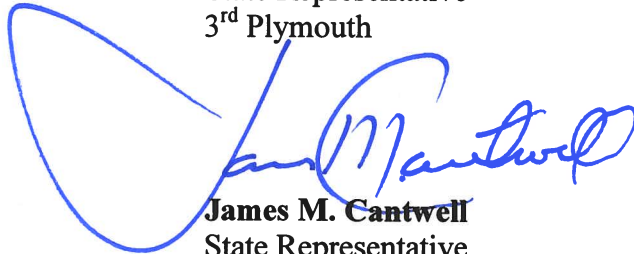
Walter F. Timilty
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5th Norfolk



James M. Cantwell
State Representative
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