

**TOWNSHIP OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS
UNION COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Pilgrim Pipeline Company ("Pilgrim") is proposing to build a new bi-directional pipeline through the Township of Berkeley Heights that would transport crude oil and refined petroleum products between Albany, New York and Linden, New Jersey (the "Pipeline"); and

WHEREAS, the pipeline will carry oil from the Bakken Shale region of North Dakota extracted through a process of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking" which has been found to deplete clean water resources, create toxic air emissions and radioactive waste, and release large quantities of methane gas into the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, data collected by the Capline Pipeline in Louisiana, which tested crude from 86 locations worldwide, indicates that sweet oil from the Bakken Shale has a far higher vapor pressure – making it much more likely to throw off combustible gases – than crude from dozens of other locations; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights finds that bringing sweet oil from the Bakken Shale into the Township potentially threatens the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Pilgrim Pipeline raises significant safety concerns for the Township of Berkeley Heights, risks potential harm to municipal and county infrastructures, and negatively impacts future development in the Township; and

WHEREAS, due to the constraints of available workspace, construction of the Pipeline will place heavy equipment in close proximity to homes and foundations; and

WHEREAS, temporary workspace usage will also impact existing soils, reducing water absorption and increasing future flooding possibilities; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline will carry a large volume of highly flammable oil through certain Township of Berkeley Heights residential neighborhoods, which will place them in harm's way should an explosion or spill occur; and

WHEREAS, any rupture or compromise of the Pipeline, even without an explosion or fire, will require extraordinary cleanup efforts, could force many Township residents from their homes, and place a large number of Township residents in close proximity to hazardous materials; and

WHEREAS, according to Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration (PHMSA), only has 135 inspectors to oversee

2.6 million miles of pipeline, and only a fifth of that pipeline system has been inspected by PHMSA or its state partners since 2006; and

WHEREAS, the Pipeline may decrease the values of homes located along its route and in surrounding neighborhoods; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights as follows:

1. That the aforesaid recitals are adopted and incorporated herein as if repeated in full; and
2. That the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights hereby calls for a moratorium on any and all planning, proposal, surveying, or construction of the Pilgrim pipeline through and within the municipal borders of the Township of Berkeley Heights; and
3. That the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights hereby requests that a full Environmental Impact Statement be completed to assess the myriad environmental consequences of the Pipeline project; and
4. That the Township Council of the Township of Berkeley Heights hereby directs the Township Clerk to forward copies of this resolution to Governor Chris Christie, Senator Thomas Kean, Jr., Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, Assemblywoman Nancy Munoz, the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders and all the Union County Municipalities.

APPROVED this 2nd day of December, 2014

ATTEST:

Ana Minkoff
Township Clerk