

Stephen M. Tomasik  
DEC - Division of Environmental Permits  
625 Broadway, 4th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1750

\_\_\_\_\_, 2015

Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00009 - Water Quality Certification  
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00010 - Freshwater Wetlands  
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00011 - Water Withdrawal  
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00012 - Excavation and Fill in Navigable Waters  
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00013 - Stream Disturbance

Dear Mr. Tomasik:

Constitution Pipeline (CP) has chosen a dangerous, hilly, flood-prone path for its proposed 30-inch high-pressure gas pipeline. The Southern Tier and Catskills have experienced three 100-year floods and many other extreme rainfall events in the past eight years. According to a 2011 report from NYSERDA, the number of 100-year storm and flood events in New York is projected to increase, while the number of years between such storms is projected to decrease—meaning rainstorms will become more severe and more frequent.<sup>1</sup>

Despite these facts, CP is using a 5-year storm event as the basis for its 401 Water Quality certificate and four related permits. This is unacceptable. Even the most conscientious “best management practices” in place for a 5-year storm event would be completely inadequate in a 10-, 50-, 100- or 500-year flood, which *will* happen again, either during or after CP’s planned construction (or both). As proposed, CP would put at risk our water quality and the lives of all fish, wildlife and people along the pipeline’s path. I urge you to deny CP a 401 water quality certificate, or hold adjudicatory hearings.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.co.chenango.ny.us/hazard-mitigation-plan/section/Section%205.4.3%20-%20Draft%20Flood%20Profile.pdf>