

**TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL  
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

**R E S O L U T I O N #15-254**

**A RESOLUTION PROHIBITING SURVEY ACCESS BY  
PENNEAST PIPELINE COMPANY LLC**

**WHEREAS**, the PennEast Pipeline Company LLC proposes to construct a 36" diameter natural gas pipeline within Hopewell Township and Hopewell Township previously opposed the pipeline construction by Resolution #14-309; and

**WHEREAS**, the PennEast Pipeline Company LLC is proposing two different pipeline routes through Hopewell Township which will cross preserved public open space, environmentally-constrained lands, municipal and county parks, municipally-owned affordable housing property and land upon which municipal services are provided or are planned to be provided; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ted Stiles Preserve at Baldpate Mountain is one of the public open spaces which will be impacted by the preferred pipeline route and this property is jointly owned by Mercer County, Hopewell Township, the Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ted Stiles Preserve at Baldpate Mountain is a treasure trove of environmental resources of major aesthetic, economic, recreational and cultural significance for the Township; more specifically the Preserve is an Important Bird Area (IBA), a wildlife preserve, and one of the few remaining large tracts of aesthetically significant mature forest; the Preserve has documented sightings of endangered and threatened species and provides very significant documented habitats for endangered and threatened species; and

**WHEREAS**, any disturbance of the aforementioned lands and species by survey work is deemed as potentially environmentally harmful and could result in irreparable harm to the environment; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 22, 2015 Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes revoked survey permission on the Ted Stiles Preserve at Baldpate Mountain and prohibited survey access to PennEast Pipeline Company LLC on County-owned property; and

**WHEREAS**, various environmental groups support denial of survey access to PennEast Pipeline Company LLC.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** this 27<sup>th</sup> day of July by the Hopewell Township Committee that Hopewell Township endorses the action taken by the Mercer County Executive; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Hopewell Township objects to granting any survey access at the Ted Stiles Preserve at Baldpate Mountain; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that Hopewell Township denies survey access to PennEast Pipeline Company LLC on any and all Township-owned lands; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be distributed to Governor Chris Christie, U.S. Senator Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator Cory Booker, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman, Senator Shirley K. Turner, Assemblywoman Elizabeth Maher Muoio, Assemblyman Reed Gusciora, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Mercer County Executive Brian Hughes, Mercer County Board of

Chosen Freeholders, Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders, affected municipalities in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton and Bucks Counties in Pennsylvania and Hunterdon and Mercer Counties in New Jersey, the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, The New Jersey Conservation Foundation, The Sierra Club, Delaware Riverkeeper, Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space, The Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association, and Hopewell Township Citizens Against the PennEast Pipeline (HTCAPP).

Date Adopted: July 27, 2015