



NEWS

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Second Circuit Court Should Reject Ill-advised Attempt to Undermine FERC Environmental Review of Constitution Pipeline, Says NGSA

(Washington, D.C.) -- In a brief filed today in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) called on the Court to deny a petition by Catskill Mountainkeeper, et al., challenging the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's environmental review of the Constitution Pipeline.

NGSA pointed out that the group's petition should be rejected for many reasons, chiefly because petitioners are erroneously claiming that natural gas production is the result of pipeline development. NGSA's brief points out that production actually precedes the pipeline. NGSA says, "The true aim of the petition is to advance Sierra Club's [Beyond Natural Gas campaign] to eliminate the use of fossil fuels... which would deprive the region's businesses and consumers of the benefits of abundant and accessible clean natural gas supplies."

As NGSA's brief explains, "Petitioners incorrectly argue that authorization of the Constitution Pipeline itself will cause cognizable increases in domestic natural production ... incorrectly reversing the causal connection between natural gas production and the infrastructure necessary to transport natural gas."

NGSA said, "As FERC has recognized ... the proposed pipeline is the *result* of substantial increases in natural gas production, not the cause of that production."

NGSA added that the environmental impacts of natural gas production are already properly evaluated and regulated by states and the Bureau of Land Management. NGSA said that upstream production impacts should not be incorrectly "piggybacked onto decisions to authorize downstream infrastructure made by a federal agency [FERC] that has no jurisdiction over natural gas production."

The brief is available [here](#) on NGSA.org and was filed on September 12.

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The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA) represents integrated and independent companies that supply natural gas. Established in 1965, NGSA encourages the use of natural gas within a balanced national energy policy. For more information, please visit www.ngsa.org and www.naturalgas.org.

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