



## NEWS

For Immediate Release July 7, 2017

Contact: Daphne Magnuson [daphne.magnuson@ngsa.org](mailto:daphne.magnuson@ngsa.org) (202) 326-9314

Hinson Peters [hinson.peters@ngsa.org](mailto:hinson.peters@ngsa.org) (202) 326-9325

### **Consumers Join with Natural Gas Industry in Amicus Brief Supporting Northern Access Project**

(Washington, D.C.) -- The Natural Gas Supply Association (NGSA), along with other natural gas industry groups as well as two groups that represent consumers of natural gas, filed a joint amicus brief supporting National Fuel Supply Corporation and Empire Pipeline in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit for their Northern Access Project. National Fuel and Empire are challenging New York's denial of its 401 water certification.

Dena E. Wiggins, president and CEO of the Natural Gas Supply Association, said, "NGSA member companies' concerns are growing as New York has once again denied water certification of a proposed pipeline through its state by holding the project applicant to considerations that are far outside of the state's purview. This undermines the careful balance between federal and state roles in reviewing pipelines that was established in the Natural Gas Act."

Wiggins said, "Congress gave FERC primary authority for reviewing pipeline projects, so that one state could not unilaterally veto FERC-approved projects and deprive others states' natural gas consumers of a useful and valuable source of competitive natural gas transportation."

She said, "We are confident that the Court will recognize that New York has over-reached and will require swift reconsideration so that New York and other New England states can recognize their economic growth potential. Creating inappropriate hurdles to building natural gas infrastructure deprives other states of natural gas supplies that they need for summer cooling, winter heating, manufacturing and clean energy. Natural gas is an essential part of meeting New York's, as well as the region's, ambitious clean energy objectives, but sufficient infrastructure must be in place to support increased use of natural gas for electricity. "

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Business Council of New York State signed the amicus. In addition, several associations representing the natural gas industry joined the amicus, including the American Petroleum Institute, the American Gas Association, the Interstate Natural Gas Association of America and the Natural Gas Supply Association. The brief was filed July 7.

####

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](http://www.ngsa.org) and [www.naturalgas.org](http://www.naturalgas.org).

**Markets Matter: *Representing America's Major Producers and Suppliers of Natural Gas Since 1965***