## STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION Division of Information Resources

	June 9, 2020	nac.S 2020
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то:	Document Control Center Clerk's Office	A 8: 16
FROM:	Ken Schrad	с I
RE:	PUR-2019-00207	

I have attached a letter from Senator Jennifer McClellan, a member of the Senate of Virginia. The letter was sent by email to my attention on late Monday afternoon, June 8, 2020.

I ask that you pass this correspondence to the case file referenced below.

## PUR-2019-00207

Virginia Natural Gas - For approval and certification of natural gas facilities: the Header Improvement Project and for approval of Rate Schedules and Terms and Conditions for Pipeline Transportation Service

Attachment -

• Letter of Senator Jennifer McClellan, Senate of Virginia – 9th District

## SENATE OF VIRGINIA

JENNIFER L. MCCLELLAN 97H SENATORIAL DISTRICT ALL OF CHARLES CITY COUNTIES; AND FART OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND 07 THE CITY OF RICHMOND P.O. BOX 396 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218



COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES JUDICIARY FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS PRIVILEGES AND ELECTIONS 'TRANSPORTATION

June 8, 2020

Mr. Joel H. Peck, Clerk Virginia State Corporation Commission Document Control Center 1300 East Main Street Richmond VA 23219

RE: Case No. PUR-2019-00207 Header Improvement Project and Pipeline Transportation Service,

Dear Mr. Peck,

I write to share my concerns with and opposition to the Virginia Natural Gas ("VNG") Header Improvement Project ("HIP") as presented to and pending before the State Corporation Commission based on conversations with my constituents and review of the record in this case.

The main purpose of the HIP has been presented as fueling the proposed C4GT Power Plant in Charles City County. However, it is my understanding that there is significant opposition to the plant from area communities and that the C4GT has been unable to secure financing to move forward. Moreover, in the wake of the passage of the Virginia Clean Economy Act, there is even more uncertainty around the economic prospects for a new natural gas power plant as we move to a 100 percent clean electric generation by 2050 in Virginia. Local residents, VNG customers, and the environment should not bear the risk and cost of an infrastructure project whose purpose and future is uncertain.

I am also concerned that the HIP project includes pipeline segments and compressor stations that have not been vetted through an official state agency environmental justice review. Virginia Code Section § 67-102 establishes the policy of the Commonwealth to "Ensure that development of new, or expansion of existing, energy resources or facilities does not have a disproportionate adverse impact on economically disadvantaged or minority communities." It is unclear how that policy can be met absent an environmental justice review prior to project approval. Given the demographics of the community in which the HIP and related infrastructure will be placed, any decision surrounding the project will have a potentially significant and adverse impact on economically disadvantaged and minority communities who historically have been disproportionately impacted by these utility infrastructure projects.

Moreover, as outlined in the April 28, 2020 letter submitted by Delegate Delores McQuinn and I, I am concerned that due to the COVID-19 health pandemic, our constituents in the area, as well as other interested parties across the Commonwealth have not had an adequate opportunity to voice their concerns and engaging in public hearings on this project to make their opposition known.

For the foregoing reasons, I ask you to deny the Certificate of Public Necessity for the Header Improvement Project at this time.

Sincerely,

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Jennifer L. McClellan Virginia Senate 9th District