

Christopher M. Hogan
NYS DEC - Division of Environmental Permits
625 Broadway, 4th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-1750

**RE: Dominion New Market Project Air State Facility Permit,
Brookman Corners Application ID: 4-2730-00038/0000**

Dear Mr. Hogan,

We need to take a close look at DEC's obligations to protect the population and the environment of New York State. DEC appears to be caving to industry pressure in awarding permits, encouraging industrial operations it knows to be unsafe, opening the door for more pollution and noise in NYS, turning a blind eye to potentially false filings in Dominion's application and abdicating its responsibility under a new mandate to consider the climate change impact projects. In fact in DEC's recent response to FERC's EA on Northern Access, DEC acknowledged that permitting these projects would likely mean that the state would renege on its greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Dominion Transmission's "New Market Project" will expand the capacity of its 200-mile-long, 50-year-old pipeline, bringing 112 MILLION cubic feet of more fracked gas from Pennsylvania through the heart of New York State every day. The project would result in construction of two new 11,000 horsepower compressor stations and the massive expansion of a third 18,500 horsepower compressor station. The three compressor stations would pump 200,000 tons of additional greenhouse gas emissions and hazardous pollutants into the air each year. Burning the new gas will generate over 2 MILLION additional tons of pollution per year. Add to this methane leakage in production and delivery, and this whopping climate-cooking pollution actually doubles.

The NYS DEC and DOH have determined that fracked gas is not safe for the environment or people. This project will encourage fracking operations elsewhere while bringing the pollutants resulting from it here into NYS. The noise and toxic chemicals that will impact local populations are reason enough for the DEC to reject this terrible project. Dominion does not plan, and to date DEC has not requested state-of-the-art pollution mitigation for all compressors involved in New Market.

Clearly, we need state agencies like DEC to provide more – not less - oversight. Comptroller DiNapoli's "Pipeline Safety Oversight" report found that state agencies are failing to ensure the safety of pipelines in New York. When FERC approved this dangerous project, it silenced intervenor objections with a "tolling order" denying due process to the voicing of legitimate health and safety concerns. FERC failed to provide an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which might have revealed safety and health issues and instead performed only an "abbreviated" Environmental Assessment (EA). The PSC provided not one technical comment to FERC on the safety of Dominion's "New Market Project."

This project is a test of DEC's commitments to state GHG reduction and climate change goals and its commitment to protecting NY's environment and the health of NY's citizens.

Sincerely,