

Stephen M. Tomasik
DEC - Division of Environmental Permits
625 Broadway, 4th Floor
Albany, NY 12233-1750

_____, 2015

Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00009 - Water Quality Certification
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00010 - Freshwater Wetlands
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00011 - Water Withdrawal
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00012 - Excavation and Fill in Navigable Waters
Application ID: 0-9999-00181/00013 - Stream Disturbance

Dear Mr. Tomasik:

An article in the December 2014 issue of the DEC's own magazine, *Conservationist*, discusses the importance of stream equilibrium, or a stream's ability to "pass water and sediment during small and large flood events, and then regain its natural shape." The article, which addresses learning from past floods in New York and how to better handle future ones, states: **"stream sections can become unstable when human activity upsets that equilibrium and alters the stream's ability to move its water and sediment effectively. When this happens, the stream can become a source of flooding for communities located along its banks."**¹

The people who live along and downstream from the proposed path of the Constitution Pipeline (CP) hope the DEC will uphold its reason for being by protecting New York's water quality and safeguarding our streams and rivers from flooding. CP's plan to cross 277 creeks, streams, rivers and other waterbodies—scores of which are DEC classified as protected trout streams—constitutes 277 extreme instances of human activity upsetting stream equilibrium. These crossings, many of which would require blasting, would increase both the likelihood and the severity of future flooding. Every single water body the pipeline crosses would be degraded.

Please deny CP a 401 water quality certificate, or hold adjudicatory hearings.

Sincerely,

Signature

Printed Name

Address

¹ *Conservationist*, Dec. 2014, p. 25: "Water, Water Everywhere—Past flooding teaches us how to better handle future floods;" <http://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/99825.html>