

DOCKET NO. 134A - An Amendment to the Iroquois Gas Transmission System, L.P., Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need to construct, operate, and maintain an interstate natural gas transmission pipeline from Sherman to Milford and Long Island Sound.

Connecticut  
Siting  
Council  
December 10, 1990

### Opinion

On October 11, 1990, the Connecticut Siting Council issued a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (Certificate) for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the Connecticut portion of the proposed Iroquois interstate natural gas pipeline from Sherman to Milford and Long Island Sound. On November 1, 1990, the Newtown Opposition to Pipeline Encroachment (N.O.P.E.) submitted to the Council a request to amend its Certificate to adopt the Old Farm Hill Variation A or B in the Town of Newtown. Through negotiations between the Certificate Holder, landowners and developers in the Hanover Road area of Newtown, and the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), a variation in the area of the Old Farm Hill Subdivision was agreed upon.

We are pleased that after the issuance of our decision negotiations continued to identify a route that was more acceptable to the landowners and Certificate Holder and would be at least as environmentally a prudent route as the proposed route, if not better. Because the negotiations were not part of our record we had no way of knowing if such a desirable resolution would be possible. Now, even at this late stage of the regulatory process, negotiations have produced a publicly acceptable and environmentally superior route, the Old Farm Hill Variation B, that reduces the amount of wetland areas that would have had to be crossed, and increases the length of the route that parallels an existing transmission line right-of-way than was possible with the proposed route or with the Old Farm Hill Variation A.

Based on the foregoing, we believe that an amendment of our Decision and Order dated October 11, 1990, is warranted for the adoption of the Old Farm Hill Variation B.