

## TRISTATES UNITE FOR SAFE ENERGY URGES GOVERNOR TO IMPLEMENT CONSISTENT STANDARDS STATEWIDE

We applaud Governor Andrew Cuomo's decision to deny a critical water permit allowing development of the Constitution Pipeline in neighboring counties. This pipeline threatened human health and would have caused untold damage and irreversible destruction to waterways critical to our ecological balance. The Governor appropriately announced his decision on Earth Day.

We urge the Governor to act consistently and, through DEC, deny Millennium Pipeline Company the permit it needs for its Valley Lateral Project, a 7.8 mile pipeline that would connect Millennium's main line to the CPV Valley Energy Center now under construction in the Town of Wawayanda, NY. The communities in this region are as precious as others in the state, more densely populated, and more vulnerable to the destructive impact not only of a pipeline, but of the power plant the pipeline would feed. Allowing the Valley Lateral pipeline would commit our region to long-term reliance on gas produced through the hydro-fracking process. As Governor Cuomo has already banned hydro-fracking in New York because the Departments of Health and Environmental Conservation found it too injurious to human health and our shared environment, it is critical that the Governor not induce – indeed encourage -- fracking by approving this project.

CPV contracted with Millennium to build the Valley Lateral pipeline to be the sole source of the fracked gas that would feed the CPV power plant. While it is true that CPV has proceeded with construction activities in Wawayanda before Millennium secured the 401 water permit that it needs to make the Valley Lateral a reality, this should NOT influence the Governor's decision to deny that permit. Indeed, CPV should have awaited ALL approvals before spending its investors' money. Having recklessly proceeded should not now insulate CPV or Millennium from the same careful scrutiny which caused the DEC to reject the Constitution pipeline. If allowed to become operational CPV would release huge quantities of pollutants, threatening residents for many miles around with

toxic levels of hazardous air pollutants - VOCs, PM2, formaldehyde, sulfuric acid mist among them - as well as 2,164,438 tons per year of CO2 at a time when climate change is a stark reality. The CPV plant is not needed and would irreparably harm an entire region of New York State.

Naomi Miller, Co-Chair of TriStates Unite for Safe Energy, commented, "We urge the Governor to implement consistent statewide standards: ban any project which creates further reliance on hydro-fracking. We need to invest in the development and production of renewables, rather than expanding our dependency on technology which further threatens our planet."