

Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am gravely concerned about the development of the **CPV Valley Energy Center in Orange County, NY**. This project is under construction in a pristine Critical Environmental Area (CEA) and Protected Class 2 Agricultural district. It is destroying valuable farmlands, wetlands, endangered species habitat, historic sites, and cultural resources, including a native burial ground. It is planned for a non-attainment region for ozone and particulate matter. It will impact an environmental justice area and is to be built over a fault line. It will contaminate our famed black dirt region and undermine the Lower Hudson Valley's growing agro tourism industry. It is connected to the Minisink Compressor Station which was illegally segmented from the project. According to a study recently conducted by a team of scientists that facility is now making residents, especially children, sick. Many have been forced to leave their homes and one family had to abandon their home. The plant would use fracked gas from Pennsylvania. Why would New York support expanding the use of fracked gas when we banned fracking due to health risks? All of this is unconscionable and unacceptable.

The most disturbing fact is that construction is underway for the plant despite the fact that federal and state approvals for the lateral pipeline have not yet been granted. Why has construction and resulting destruction of the area been allowed to commence prior to the issuance of these permits? **I ask that you immediately launch an investigation into the environmental review of this project**, and irregularities of process or conflicts of interests that may have led to any of the approvals obtained thus far.

I also ask that you direct the Department of Environmental Conservation to assume lead agency status and require a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement from the project sponsor. This project was drafted seven years ago and there are many new conditions both in terms of the energy market and our understanding of health and safety risks that warrant an SEIS.

I further ask that you direct the New York State Department of Health to conduct an independent Health Impact Assessment of this project and the related gas infrastructure before allowing it to proceed.

Finally, and most importantly, I ask that you deny the Water Quality Certification for Valley Lateral Pipeline now before FERC in docket CP16-17. Please note that the lateral pipeline would cut through critical wetlands, farmlands, and water bodies. Moreover many landowners are being threatened with eminent domain. Eminent domain for private gain is unacceptable.

Thank You
Sincerely,

CC: Commissioner Howard A. Zucker
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12237

Commissioner Basil Seggos
New York State DEC
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12233