

**RESOLUTION TO WALPOLE TOWN MEETING
SPRING, 2016**

To see if the Town Meeting will vote to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, a high-pressure pipeline carrying natural gas, currently called the Q1 loop of the Access Northeast Pipeline, proposed by Spectra Energy Corporation, would run through Walpole, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS said pipeline is not needed because:

- The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, in their Regional Electric Reliability Options study, concluded that no additional pipeline gas capacity is needed to meet electric reliability needs,
- The Walpole Board of Selectmen voted on April 12, 2016 to endorse the analysis and position of Attorney General Maura Healey, as supported by the aforementioned Regional Electric Reliability Options study; and

WHEREAS, said unnecessary pipeline will negatively impact Walpole because:

- "... the siting of the pipeline in such close proximity to the Town's water supply would propose an unacceptable threat to public health" as voted by the Walpole Board of Selectmen on April 12, 2016,
- Said pipeline construction would permanently alter Walpole forest and conservation land in a manner that cannot be mitigated,
- The operation of a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture, or explosion, causing damage to property and lives,
- The cost of said pipeline may require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff, making electric ratepayers bear the financial burden for the endeavors of a private corporation; and

WHEREAS said pipeline goes against current Massachusetts commitments to renewable energies and combating global climate change, and our state's energy challenges are better addressed through investment in energy conservation and green and renewable energy solutions;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Walpole Town Meeting record their opposition to the pipeline and endorse the analysis and position of Attorney General Healey, as supported by the Regional Electric Reliability Options study; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Walpole Town Meeting urge Governor Baker and our state officials to oppose the pipeline and communicate said position at pertinent Department of Public Utilities hearings and to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Governor Charles Baker, State Senator James Timilty, State Representative John Rogers, State Representative Louis Kafka, State Representative Shawn Dooley, State Representative Paul McMurtry, and Attorney General Maura Healey.