

December 2, 2016

Comments of Jacqueline Haut Evans

My name is Jacqueline Evans. I am an intervener in the PennEast Pipeline application to FERC and a directly impacted property owner. I am a single mother of 3 young children living on a Certified Organic farm in Delaware Township, NJ., which is threatened by this project. I am a founding member of Homeowners Against Land Taking (HALT-PennEast) made up of 300 homeowners committed to stopping PennEast, because we will not tolerate FERC's abuse of power in rubber stamping incomplete applications that will result in the misuse of eminent domain to steal our homes, farms and children's future for corporate gain and no benefit to our community.

FERC is funded by those it regulates and is shirking its duties to follow regulations and federal laws to protect us. This leaves me facing condemnation of my farm thereby making them impossible to sell. My freedom and well being of my family put in peril, while FERC ignores my questions and concerns. FERC held public hearings where interveners were made to go into a room one by one to speak behind closed doors, driving the point home that we aren't really part of this and that we are merely the cost of doing business in America. My friend and neighbor Maryann Plesher lost her husband to the stress of trying to save their farm from the pipeline. A week after his death, she received a call from PennEast threatening her to make a deal with them now, or things would be worse for her later. She wrote to FERC about this, however loyalty to the gas companies seems more important than the abuse of a widow a week after losing her husband. The Pleshers were offered \$5,000,000.00 in 2009, realtors advised her with the pipeline the price was now \$1,500,000.00, but when an offer came in after she listed her farm it was withdrawn upon hearing about the PennEast Pipeline. PennEast has already stolen thousands of dollars from us, as we watch property values plummet in our community and properties on the line not able to be sold.

What does FERC's eminent domain for corporate gain look like? It is not being able to move across country to take care of my aging mother. It is not being able to take a mortgage out on my home to pay for my children's college. It is not knowing how I will be able to afford a new home when there are no buyers for my farm, which I can no longer live on. Its relocating goats, sheep, chickens, ducks, honey bees and dogs, because I will no longer have paddocks. Its having the Federal government tell me that my children should live in an "incineration zone". It is also the loss of feeling safe in our homes, which is one of the most profound losses of all. FERC is threatening everything we hold sacred through its corruption and must be investigated.

