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To: Gillibrand, Press (Gillibrand) <Press_Gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov>

Subject: Schumer, Gillibrand Call for Independent Review of NRC Analysis Following Report of Agency's Failure to Properly Analyze Pipeline Risks at Indian Point

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SCHUMER, GILLIBRAND CALL FOR INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF NRC ANALYSIS FOLLOWING REPORT OF AGENCY'S FAILURE TO PROPERLY ANALYZE PIPELINE RISKS AT INDIAN POINT

Damning NRC Inspector General Report Details Faulty Analysis that Led to Approval of Natural Gas Pipeline; Schumer, Gillibrand Had Originally Called For [Independent Review](#)

Schumer, Gillibrand Opposed the Algonquin/AIM Pipeline Near Indian Point Because of Threats Posed to Quality of Life, Environment, and Health and Safety of Residents Across the Hudson Valley and New York State

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer and U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today called for a full review and publically released report of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) methods and procedures for evaluating safety risks — including an independent third party verification of all critical safety analyses — following a report released this week by the NRC inspector general detailing the agency's failure to accurately study risks associated with a high-pressure natural gas pipeline near the Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, New York. Additionally, the senators are demanding the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) immediately redo its risk analysis, utilizing the accurate data, to assess the safety of this now constructed and operational pipeline.

*"In 2016, we called on FERC to suspend construction of the AIM pipeline project so that independent health and safety studies could be conducted," said **Senators Schumer and Gillibrand**. "The NRC inspector general's report released this week validates the concerns that were raised at the time. The NRC and the individuals responsible must be held accountable for this appalling failure to conduct a thorough, independent, and accurate safety evaluation. We are outraged that our demands, and the demands of our constituents, for independent reviews before the project was constructed were ignored, and the project was approved based on apparent false and misleading analysis by NRC staff. The credibility of the NRC is on the line, and there must be an immediate top-to-bottom independent review of the NRC's methods and procedures for evaluating safety risks that results in concrete changes to ensure that this never happens again."*

The senators also called on the NRC and FERC to host community meetings so local residents and stakeholders can have their questions answered. **The senators** said, *"In light of these disturbing revelations we are also demanding that the NRC and FERC host community meetings to allow local stakeholders the chance to have their voices heard and their questions answered. It is the very least they can do."*

The NRC IG report indicated that NRC staffers completed faulty and inaccurate analysis of the risk of an underground natural gas pipeline built near the Indian Point Energy Center in Buchanan, New York. The analysis was then used by FERC to approve the new pipeline expansion project that would run underground in close proximity to the nuclear plant. Schumer and Gillibrand [have long been concerned](#) about the health and safety concerns of the Algonquin Incremental Market (AIM) pipeline project as community leaders, advocacy groups, and residents have expressed legitimate alarm about the potential of the project's negative impact on air quality, public health, and the quality of life currently being enjoyed in these communities.

In past years, Schumer and Gillibrand have urged FERC to ensure that the environmental, safety, and public health concerns of residents were thoroughly and substantially addressed before any construction began. In addition, Schumer and Gillibrand [asked](#) that FERC not approve any proposal until a thorough, independent review of all of the project's potential impacts was completed and made available to the public, with full opportunity for comment and review, including additional public meetings. The senators also said that at no point has it been made clear that there is a compelling economic need for this project in New York, while the potential for long lasting environmental, safety and health impacts are evident.

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