Greetings from the President
And here we are, at the end of the NETU Year already. May is here, the striped bass are working their way up the coast and are probably up to the southern shores of RI and Cape Cod by now. Pat Grenier from CCTU on Cape Cod told me on Monday (4/25) that he’d caught 40 small stripers this year already, but those may be some holdover rather than migrating fish. One never knows with these things. This cold weather may slow down the migration somewhat too; I was hoping for early to mid May for their arrival into our waters but those hopes may be in vain. If you’re curious, you can check the website for On the Water Magazine at www.onthewater.com which shows on a map each spring where the striped migration has reached (although on 4/27 their most recent data was almost three weeks old, dated 4/8)... Trout fishing ought to be pretty good around now as well...

We’re still glowing from our fabulous banquet on March 19th. Thank you all who helped, participated, and attended for your support of our chapter! We raised over $10,000 which is the most we’ve ever reached, and it seemed that everyone there had a rollicking good time. Our next year’s banquet will be even better, since we’re learning as we go. The auction timing will go more quickly, and the check-in and check-out process will go more smoothly as well. There were things we had not thought through, but on the whole everything else went swimmingly. The auction donations were stunning, the classical guitar seemed just the right touch, the meal was superb, the room looked fabulous, and the brief focus on conservation issues offered us all a good perspective on why we were there. Thanks to all involved!!!

And we have another meeting coming up on Monday, May 2nd. We’ll have another nice meal to share — you’ll never eat better for just a $5.00 donation to the chapter — and another great bucket raffle with some more great prizes. This meeting will not have a special speaker, but rather be an opportunity to learn from each other about good local fishing opportunities. Following the lead of the New England Salt Water Fly Rodders’ “Chart Night” (where local guides and anglers share what they know about where to find great saltwater fishing), we will do our own version and ask our members to bring what they know (maps are helpful but in no way necessary) to share it with those who might have other knowledge (or maybe none at all)! This will be fun and informative too. Please attend and bring all your secrets!!!

Our meeting, as always, will take place at the IRWA Headquarters (“Riverbend”) at 143 County Road in Ipswich. Be there at 6:00PM for a great meal! The meeting will start at 7:00PM, followed by our raffle drawing and a business meeting that will begin around or a bit after 8:00PM. We have lots going on, and even more to discuss, so please stay on for that part of our meeting! We always welcome your input...

We have many projects underway and in the planning stages right now. Please come to our meeting to find out more about what we’re doing! This will be our last meeting of the year until next September...

If we don’t see you on Monday, have a great summer season and we hope you’ll have great fishing too!

Tight lines!
Fred Jennings
NETU President

DONATIONS? UNWANTED ITEMS?
Contact Bob Torkildsen if you have any items for the raffle or the banquet

Upcoming Events

May 2
Chart Night! Members show maps and places to go fishing in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Last event this season. Learn where to go fishing and share your experiences!

May 20-23
Indian Hollow Fishing Weekend on the Westfield River.

June 4-5
Deerfield River Watershed Trout Unlimited Fly fishing tournament

Have you renewed your TU membership?
www.tu.org
OPENING THE FISH LADDER AT WILLOWDALE DAM

A bunch of us met last Saturday and put in the boards for the fish ladder at Willowdale Dam across from Foote Brothers Canoe on Topsfield Road in Ipswich (a.k.a. Ipswich Road in Topsfield). Turn off Topsfield Road on Winthrop Road and just past the bridge over the river you can park on the right and walk upriver along the river on the path to get to the fish ladder.

If you want to learn how to tweak the ladder so it's working correctly, Chett Walsh is the person to talk with and he will certainly appreciate a little help. Chett will be there and hopefully others on weekly basis to adjust if needed. It's good to help and to learn how to do this. It also spreads the workload. Thanks!

Fred Jennings
NETU President

Willowdale dam. Photos by Tom Leahy
OPENING THE FISH LADDER AT WILLOWDALE DAM

Willowdale dam. Photos by Tom Leahy
KINDER MORGAN’S TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE (TGP) NORTHEAST ENERGY DIRECT (NED) PROJECT SUSPENDED

Over the past year, NETU, the MA-RI TU Council, and TU National have been actively engaged in protecting prime trout habitat and coldwater resources in Massachusetts from the possible effects of a major pipeline project that was proposed to cross the Housatonic, Westfield, Deerfield, Millers and Ipswich River watersheds. Actions by TU include NETU joining our partners at IRWA in presenting oral and written testimony regarding the impact on coldwater resources to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board; supporting TU National’s comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement to FERC; and signing on to a formal Motion to Intervene filed by TU National with FERC.

These actions were sufficient that Kinder Morgan’s Tennessee Gas Pipeline, the firm that sought to build the pipeline, requested a conference call with TU to discuss our concerns; a number of NETU members and members of other chapters participated in the discussion with Kinder Morgan people to ensure the interests of coldwater resources were well represented. Additionally, a plan for field monitoring of the construction of the pipeline was being developed at the time the suspension was announced by TGP. Below is a blog post from Katy Dunlap of TU National about this project and Kinder Morgan’s 20 April 2016 statement announcing its withdrawal from this TGP-NED pipeline project.

Additional emails about the pipeline project are attached to the back of the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Fred Jennings
NETU President

http://www.tu.org/blog-posts/plug-pulled-on-proposed-pipeline-in-northeast-0
http://www.kindermorgan.com/content/docs/NED_Project_Statement-April_20_2016.pdf
## UPCOMING EVENTS AND SHOWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Organizer</th>
<th>Location and Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon, May 2</td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Nor’East TU</td>
<td>Ipswich, MA at the IRWA. Chart Night! Members show maps and places to go fishing in MA and NH. Monthly meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri, May 20/22</td>
<td>12pm</td>
<td>Central MA, TU</td>
<td>Indian Hollow Fishing Weekend is fast approaching. There is a Council Camping and Fishing weekend on the Westfield River. The 2016 dates are 5/20 - 5/23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat, June 4-5</td>
<td>8 am</td>
<td>Deerfield TU</td>
<td>Deerfield River Watershed Trout Unlimited Fly fishing tournament</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Willowdale dam. Photo by Tom Leahy

Know of any other events that our members might be interested in? Send an email to Peter Vandermeulen, vanderm@comcast.net
NOR’EAST CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS 2016

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DONATIONS? UNWANTED ITEMS?
Contact Bob Thorkildsen if you have any items for the raffle

Willowdale dam. Photo by Tom Leahy

Nor’East Chapter
To conserve, protect and restore Massachusetts’ northshore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

www.tunoreast.org
Registration Saturday, 6:30 - 1:00 & Sunday, 7:30 – 10:00 at the Zoar Picnic Grounds.
Pre-register at the Outpost in Charlemont or the Deerfield Fly Shop in Deerfield.
$35 per person includes one raffle ticket.
Raffle includes rods and reels along with other fishing items.
Awards for the most united inches,
2 and 1 person teams in youth and adult categories
Awards will be handed out along with a BBQ at Zoar, following the event Sunday at 5:30

WALT GERYK SPEY DAY FUNDRAISER FOR REEL RECOVERY
SATURDAY, JUNE 4TH
Fwd: [New post] Eiseman: Pipeline battle isn’t over in Massachusetts

People Garry Crago <gcrago7@aol.com>
To dsglater@gmail.com peakdawn@yahoo.com troutbum351@yahoo.com gcrago7@aol.com fishnina@comcast.net and 7 more...
27 Apr 2016 at 7:23 PM

Interesting perspective re recent pipeline victory. Worth reading as we prepare for future events of this type.

-----Original Message-----
From: Judith Eiseman <judyeiseman@comcast.net>
Sent: Wed, Apr 27, 2016 9:57 am
Subject: Fwd: [New post] Eiseman: Pipeline battle isn't over in Massachusetts

FYI Please excuse cross postings.

Begin forwarded message:

From: No Fracked Gas In Mass! <donotreply@wordpress.com>
Subject: [New post] Eiseman: Pipeline battle isn’t over in Massachusetts
Date: April 27, 2016 at 7:24:17 AM EDT
To: judyeiseman@comcast.net

rose posted: "A wave of victory parties and impromptu parades has swept the region, celebrating the suspension of Kinder Morgan’s Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline project. What comes next? This is not an end, but a beginning of the recognition of the power and"

New post on No Fracked Gas In Mass!

Eiseman: Pipeline battle isn’t over in Massachusetts

by rose

A wave of victory parties and impromptu parades has swept the region, celebrating the suspension of Kinder Morgan’s Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline project. What comes next?

This is not an end, but a beginning of the recognition of the power and potential of the broad-based network of engaged citizens, organizations and state and local officials that has formed over the past 26 months of concerted opposition to the pipeline.

There are several directions that the movement is taking.

Some people are shifting more attention to other gas pipeline and power plant projects in the state. Others seek to influence federal legislation to reform the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Many are also focusing on promoting clean energy solutions as a way to reduce demand for gas and other fossil fuels.

But for those who need a reason that hits closer to home to stay involved, here’s a sobering reality: Political pressure
is necessary to ensure that we do not see what some are calling “zombie NED” – a return of the nightmare pipeline proposal. NED is still twitching and could be given life support by the Massachusetts Legislature.

**Here is a little background to understand the risks and pressure points.**

Kinder Morgan’s stated reason for suspending the NED project is its inability to secure enough pipeline capacity contracts. (That is, insufficient market demand, or “no need” for NED.) The company has also made clear that a key to establishing adequate demand lies with electrical power generation.

Kinder Morgan has, for more than two years, been scheming to work out a way to make electric ratepayers across New England help pay for NED’s construction.

A competing pipeline company, Spectra Energy, devised a plan to do just that for its Access Northeast project. Kinder Morgan has been trying to piggyback on this novel scheme – referred to by many as a “pipeline tax” because of its effect of saddling the general public with the cost of new gas infrastructure. Last year, the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) gave its blessing to this electric utility pipeline contract scheme, including “cost recovery” from consumers.

Under the scheme approved by the Baker administration – which is currently being challenged in court – electric utilities have entered into agreements for space on both Access Northeast and the NED pipeline. Kinder Morgan has pointed to legal uncertainty over this so-called “pipeline tax” as a factor in its decision to shelve NED.

The Massachusetts Legislature is working on an omnibus energy bill that could contain a provision that allows this electric ratepayer pipeline financing scheme in conjunction with these contracts. If the DPU is allowed (through new legislation) to approve these contracts, that legal uncertainty goes away for Kinder Morgan’s planning purposes.

It is true that even with the electric utility contracts Kinder Morgan has (with National Grid) for NED, the 1.3 billion cubic foot (bcf) per day pipeline never became more than 50 percent subscribed. Below is some nitty-gritty detail, but the takeaway is that if the National Grid electric contracts get the “all-clear” by way of new state legislation, Kinder Morgan could decide that NED is economically viable again (even if they have to scale it back by downsizing the mammoth compressor stations once more). Likewise, if the gas markets change, other companies could sign up with Kinder Morgan.

Back in February of 2014, Kinder Morgan proposed this project as “scalable from approximately 600,000 Mcf/d to 2.2 bcf/day.” The company cited interest from local gas companies, power generators, industrial end-users, and developers of LNG export projects. When it submitted the NED application to FERC, Kinder Morgan had about 552,000 mcf/d lined up, primarily with gas utilities, including Berkshire Gas, Columbia Gas and National Grid’s gas company. The addition of National Grid electric utility contracts put them over 650,000 mcf/d.

In other words, the “pipeline tax” alone could be enough to make the NED project instantly financially viable again. All of the NED applications and petitions are currently merely suspended, not withdrawn, while our Legislature crafts its energy legislation.

On May 3, the Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change is holding a hearing on the suspended NED project and the commonwealth’s clean energy future. The anti-pipeline movement is holding a rally on the Statehouse steps beforehand. Be there. Let Beacon Hill know that while we celebrate each victory, we know that eternal vigilance is the price of freedom from ill-conceived energy policy decisions. Let them know we are here to stay.

*Kathryn R. Eiseman is director of the Massachusetts PipeLine Awareness Network and president of the Pipe Line Awareness Network for the Northeast Inc.*
From Mt Grace Land Trust

Mark Burton <maburton1@aol.com>

To 'John Burns' 'Fred Jennings' 'Pentak, Stephen' tei@nhbindery.com fishinnixon2@comcast.net and 21 more...

28 April 2016 at 5:12 AM

Good morning – Leigh Youngblood is the Executive Director of Mt Grace Land Trust, Massachusetts’ largest land trust. She is a widely respected, deeply thoughtful conservationist and someone I have come to admire enormously as I have gotten to know her over the past couple of years. What she says about the urgency of sustained vigilance is right on point – and it shows that our concerns haven’t gone away at all.

Mark

MY TURN

Our work is not done

Those who fought against pipeline should remain vigilant

By LEIGH YOUNGBLOOD

From the beginning, the proposed NED pipeline had the classic characteristics of a bad idea. The closer you look, the worse it seems.

Finally, Richard Kinder concedes. This complex threat was defeated with the collective effort of myriad concerned citizens, affected landowners, supportive legislators, and really great grass-roots organizing.

The writing has been on the wall all along that NED was a sketchy plan and we won’t ever really know how much the April 20 release of a weak Kinder Morgan first-quarter earnings report or the catastrophic floods in Richard Kinder’s hometown of Houston the same week had on the timing of the announcement. What we do know is that our community cares about our land, water, and air and we are willing to go to great lengths to defend quintessential New England landscapes and values — and our neighbors.

It is important to keep in mind that many legal and regulatory threats remain. The NED has not been formally withdrawn from either the FERC or the DPU dockets. Constitutional protections for Article 97 public conservation land are being litigated right now in Berkshire County regarding the Connecticut Expansion Pipeline project.
Even though there are many differences between the NED and Connecticut Expansion, the outcome of the Sandisfield case will directly affect whether and how the NED resurfaces as a project.

FERC issued its Certificate for the Connecticut Expansion on March 11. Tennessee Gas sued the Commonwealth the following week on March 17, one day after H.3690, a bill to grant a pipeline easement across two miles of the Otis State Forest, was sent to a study committee rather than being recommended favorably or unfavorably and forwarded for a vote. At any time, we expect the first court decision on whether the Natural Gas Act preempts Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, or not. In addition to requiring a two-thirds legislative vote to release conservation protections, Article 97 includes these broad legal statements: the people have the right to clean air and water; the people have the right to the natural and historic qualities of their environment; and conservation of natural resources is a public purpose. These rights of ours are becoming increasingly urgent to uphold.

In the last two years, according to NOAA, average global temperatures have broken consecutive records by increasingly record-setting margins for 2014 and 2015 and are heading toward another record for 2016.

In the last two months, Harvard University researchers published findings that U.S. methane emissions have increased by 30 percent over the years 2002 to 2014. This is a big problem because according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) methane (aka natural gas) is 84 times stronger a heat-trapping gas than CO2 over a 20-year time scale.

In the last two weeks, the U.S. District Court, 9th Circuit, in Oregon, issued an order allowing a group of youth, ages 8 to 19, to sue the United States for knowingly “violating Plaintiff’s fundamental constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property by substantially causing or contributing to a dangerous concentration of CO2 (equivalents) in the atmosphere. The nonprofit, Our Children’s Trust, is organizing this effort.

As we celebrate the suspension of the NED we do so in quickly changing circumstances. The dramatic changes described above have occurred just since we first heard about the NED. Because of the imminent threat of the NED, more people now seem convinced that to avoid land destroying projects like the NED, individual and policy-level actions on efficiency, repairs, and renewables must be taken now. The voices I’ve heard at hearings across the state have given me a very strong sense of being part of a community of thoughtful and caring people. I urge everyone to stay tuned and to take proactive steps to help avoid further flimsy claims of need from those desperate to sell more fracked gas no matter the cost to landowners, communities, our Constitution, and our planet. Happy belated Earth Day!

*Leigh Youngblood is the executive director of Mount Grace land Conservation Trust and resides in Warwick.*