



## **New Jersey Highlands Coalition**

# **November Update**

### **Conformance**

At October's Highlands Council meeting, the petitions for the Borough of Ringwood, Town of Phillipsburg and the Township of Lebanon were approved. Ringwood is located entirely in the Preservation Area, Phillipsburg is located entirely in the Planning Area, and Lebanon has land in both areas and conformed both. This brings the total number of municipalities to have completed basic conformance to 33!

The next Highlands Council meeting is scheduled for December 1st at 4:00 PM. As of now, the Township of Bedminster and the Borough of Mount Arlington are petitioning only their lands in Preservation Area for conformance.

### **Energy Issues**

Last month President Obama announced a grid modernization plan to create jobs and fast-track seven projects around the country. The Susquehanna-Roseland Transmission Line would be fast-tracked through the Highlands as part of this program. This line is not about renewable energy since most of the energy it will transport will come from coal and nuclear.

In an effort to let President Obama and our Senators know that this project is wrong for New Jersey, we have joined other concerned groups and concerned citizens in opposing the Susquehanna-Roseland line. Representatives from numerous organizations joined us in Newark to meet with Senator Menendez to ask him to support us in opposing this fast-track.

We are also following and commenting on the development of two pipeline loops: the Northeast Upgrade Project in the Northern Highlands proposed by Tennessee Gas Pipeline and the Northeast Supply Link Project in the Southern Highlands proposed by Transcontinental Gas Pipeline.

We are also monitoring the release of Governor Christie's State Strategic Plan as it develops. The new plan is broad and places a heavy emphasis on economic growth. We are concerned that a

primary focus on the economy will leave New Jersey's environment wide open for development.

## Outreach

We have been busy attending events hosted by our affiliates this month. We were at the Sparta Harvest, the Raritan Headwaters Association's Country Fair, the ANJEC Congress in Lincroft, the State Federation of Women's Club's Fall Conference in Bridgewater, a Green Acres celebration in Princeton and the Last Fling Pumpkin Sling in Harmony. We think all of these events were a great success and provided a wonderful opportunity for us to meet so many supporters!

## Upcoming Events

Join us November 10 from 3-5:30 PM at Lurker Park Baseball Field in East Hanover to call on President Obama, Senator Menendez, and Senator Lautenberg to protect our National Park land, the Highlands, and New Jersey's renewable and energy efficiency goals by pulling the Susquehanna-Roseland line from the fast-track program.

Fast-tracking the Susquehanna-Roseland project puts dirty coal ahead of the people of New Jersey and coming together we will take action to stop this line NOW!

Invite your friends and RSVP to Erica Van Auken at [erica@njhighlandscoalition.org](mailto:erica@njhighlandscoalition.org) to let us know that you'll be rallying with us!

**When:** November 10, 3:00-5:30 PM

**Where:** Lurker Park, Baseball field area (Ridgedale Ave and Eagle Rock Ave) East Hanover, NJ

**Who:** East Hanover Mayor Joe Pannullo, NJ Sierra Club, Stop the Lines, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, and the NJ Highlands Coalition

For current listings of Highlands-wide events, go to the "Highlands Events" section of our [website](#).

*The New Jersey Highlands Coalition represents a diverse network of organizations - small and large, local, regional, statewide and national - and individuals with the common goal to protect, enhance and restore the New Jersey Highlands and to preserve the quality and quantity of drinking water both for the 850,000 people in the Highlands as well as the more than 5.4 million people in surrounding areas who depend on Highlands water. For more information visit our [website](#).*

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