



October 15, 2014

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

**Re: Proposed Constitution Natural Gas Pipeline in Central New York**

Dear Governor Cuomo,

On behalf of the Manufacturers Association of Central New York (MACNY) and our 330 member companies and their 50,000 employees, I am writing to you in support of the Constitution Pipeline, a proposed 124-mile natural gas pipeline through parts of the Southern Tier and Central New York. This proposed pipeline promises to provide much-needed natural gas to the region, which will help lower fuel and energy costs – addressing one of the key challenges Upstate New York faces in remaining competitive with other manufacturing regions.

Manufacturing is, as you know, a foundation in New York's history and place as the Empire State and the key to its future growth and economic revitalization. You have recognized the importance of manufacturing since your first day in office, advocating for funding and creating new economic development programs intended to retain and grow jobs such as RechargeNY, START-UP NY, the Regional Council Capital Fund, the Excelsior Jobs Program, the Economic Development Fund, the Jobs Now program, to name just a few. Readily available sources of energy will increase the effectiveness of these and other programs, creating thousands of new jobs in areas where such jobs are desperately needed. Failure to build new natural gas infrastructure will significantly impair New York State's ability to attract and expand manufacturing.

While we are encouraged by the prospect of the proposed pipeline being sited and built by 2016, especially since it is nearing the end of its review by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, we understand that the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has imposed requirements that will delay issuance of key water and wetland permits. We urge you to ensure that the DEC not impose regulatory burdens that will delay construction of this project once it receives all other necessary approvals by the federal government. It would be a disservice to your economic development efforts to date and your objectives to implement timely and reasonable environmental reviews and protections.

I thank you in advance for your support for the Constitution Pipeline project and the many benefits it will provide to New York's manufacturers and their employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy Wolken", is written over a circular stamp. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Randy Wolken  
President & CEO  
MACNY, The Manufacturers Association