

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Room 1 A
Washington, DC 20426

re: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C., Docket No. PF14-22-000

Dear Secretary Bose:

Fix FERC First

Chapter 6: What Others Are Saying About FERC

It has become increasingly obvious to many observers that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is badly broken and desperately in need of repair or reformulation. This document is one in a series of several chapters of the **Fix FERC First** story, with each chapter describing a specific FERC shortcoming and the harm done directly to the public and to the public interest as a result of that shortcoming. This chapter details some of **What Others Are Saying About FERC**.

In previous chapters of this multi-part **Fix FERC First** series, I have expressed my own opinions about specific problems with FERC. Now seems like a good time to share the thoughts and words of some others who have encountered FERC and formed their own opinion of that agency. And since FERC is a “creature of Congress” (as chair Cheryl LaFleur has stated), it seems appropriate to begin with quotes from two current members of Congress – to see how well they think this federal regulatory agency is functioning. All **red bolding** in the following quotes is provided by me.

US Senator Elizabeth Warren

In response to a question about FERC and the proposed NED pipeline, Senator Warren said she couldn't comment on the specifics of a particular permit application because she didn't have the information to do so, but she said this: **“I am very concerned about a regulatory agency that is only able to say ‘yes, yes, yes.’ That’s not the job of a regulatory agency.”**

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“Before we sink more money in gas infrastructure, we have an obligation wherever possible to focus our investments on the clean technologies of the future -- not the dirty fuels of the past -- and to minimize the environmental impact of all our energy infrastructure projects. **We can do better -- and we should.**”

US Representative Jim McGovern

“I also really detest the process in which energy companies get to put pipelines through states. They go through this kind of secretive process where they design where they want the pipeline to go and they give the public the bare minimum in terms of what we need to know. And then they go to FERC – the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington – to get the OK. And once they get the FERC OK then they have the full backing of the Federal government to do whatever they want to do. **And I think this process stinks, quite frankly.** I

