

Offered by City Councilors Josh Zakim and Matt O'Malley



CITY OF BOSTON

RESOLUTION REQUESTING ADEQUATE DELIBERATION REGARDING NATIONAL GRID'S PROPOSED NEW NATURAL GAS PIPELINE

WHEREAS, The Boston City Council is exploring strategies to reduce the carbon footprint of municipal buildings in order to uphold the City's role in reaching Boston's climate readiness goals, save the City and taxpayers in maintenance and energy costs, and create a healthier environment; and

WHEREAS, On June 21, 2017, the Boston City Council unanimously resolved to commit to the goals outlined in Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, and to continue to take the appropriate steps to ensure that Boston does its part to meet these global goals to remain a safe, clean and healthy city for all current and future residents; and

WHEREAS, Natural gas is associated with known health risks and is primarily methane, a potent greenhouse gas; and

WHEREAS, Alternative heating methods with lower greenhouse gas emissions are economically available, and a transition away from fossil fuel combustion for heating will significantly help the City meet its climate commitments; and

WHEREAS, National Grid is proposing to construct a new 16- or 20-inch, intermediate-pressure natural gas pipeline within the South End and Back Bay neighborhoods of Boston; and

WHEREAS, Little to no information has been made available to the public concerning National Grid's pipeline proposal, and local residents and elected officials discovered within days of the scheduled meeting that a petition concerning this proposal is set to be considered by the City's Public Improvement Commission on October 19, 2017; **THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Boston City Council hereby requests that the Public Improvement Commission refrain from effecting any binding decision on National Grid's Back Bay/South End pipeline proposal until the public has had the opportunity to review the materials that the company has presented to the City, and until the City Council has had the opportunity to deliberate the consistency of the proposal with the City's climate commitments and make an informed recommendation to the Public Improvement Commission.

Filed on: October 18, 2017