



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE # 2015-03

**CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE PASSES FIRST OF ITS KIND
ORDINANCE PROHIBITING UNREGULATED PIPELINES**

*Ordinance Could Impact Efforts of Pilgrim Pipeline Holdings
to Construct a 178-Mile Oil Pipeline from Albany, NY to Linden, NJ*

CHATHAM TOWNSHIP, NJ – April 27, 2015 – [The Chatham Township Committee](#) passed a first of its kind [Ordinance](#) that prohibits pipelines within the Township that are not public utilities that distribute services to end users (i.e. consumers) and are unregulated by the Board of Public Utilities. Unregulated pipelines are designed to transport a variety of materials, including hazardous substances which, if a discharge occurred, would result in environmental degradation to the environment, including the land, water and air.

[Mayor Kevin Sullivan](#), speaking on behalf of the Township Committee, said, “In passing this ordinance the Chatham Township Committee has taken the lead in establishing the necessary restrictions to ensure the public’s safety health and welfare, as well as environmental concerns from unregulated pipelines that could potentially pass through Chatham Township. Our efforts are an important step in addressing issues that had previously not been reflective in our Municipal Land Use Laws and I would encourage other municipalities to review their own ordinances to address and reflect the concerns of their community.”

The Committee believes that there is limited accountability to the public because these pipelines do not directly provide the public with necessities, such as electricity, gas, telephone, water or wastewater service. In addition, these pipelines may pose a threat to the infrastructure that provides these public utility services and they are not

public utilities that distribute services to end users and are unregulated by the Board of Public Utilities.

Individuals can view the full Ordinance [here](#). In addition, Thomas Franko, Chair of the Chatham Township Planning Board, submitted a letter to the Township Committee, which outlines how the Ordinance is not inconsistent with the Township's Master Plan and articulates how the prohibition of these unregulated pipelines advances the Master Plan objectives for protection of the land, water, and air resources of the Township of Chatham. Individuals can view the letter [here](#).

Editor's Note:

Follow the Chatham Township Committee on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) and register for Alert Chatham Township Now! ([ACT Now!](#)) the Township's Emergency & Community Alert system at [chathamtownship-nj.gov](#).

About Chatham Township

Chatham Township is located in Morris County New Jersey. It has approximately 11,000 residents and nearly 4,000 households. Learn more at [chathamtownship-nj.gov](#)

###

Media Contact:

Gregory J. LaConte
Township Clerk/Registrar
973-635-4600
glaconte@chathamtownship.org