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Study: Pilgrim Pipeline's Greenhouse Gas Emissions to Be Lower than Current River Barge Traffic

Canton, CT – An independent study released by Pilgrim Pipeline shows that greenhouse gas (GHG) air emissions generated by the proposed pipeline would be 20% lower than the GHGs currently produced by barges transporting fuels along the Hudson River. The proposed 178-mile pipeline project, consisting of two separate, parallel underground lines running between supply and distribution terminals in Albany and Linden, New Jersey, could displace up to 2,000 barge trips on the Hudson each year.

Pilgrim submitted the GHG study, conducted by independent consulting firm Environmental Resources Management (ERM), as part of its New York State application. The study compares all emissions that would result from Pilgrim Pipeline operations, including electricity taken off the grid to power the pipeline, with the emissions generated by the diesel engines of tugboats that push fuel barges up and down the Hudson River. One fleet of barges delivers crude oil south along the river, and a different fleet of barges delivers refined products back up north, each returning empty to its point of origin.

The ERM report states, “The estimated annual total emissions of GHGs (in CO₂e) for transporting the crude and refined products via pipeline are approximately 20% lower than transporting the same volume of crude and refined products by barge...Overall, the pipeline option does not represent a significant source of GHG emissions.”

“Pilgrim asked ERM to conduct this study because we are confident of the environmental advantages our pipeline brings to the table compared to barges, the main fuel delivery option in the Hudson Valley today,” said George Bochis, Pilgrim’s Vice President for Development. “We are pleased that one of the world’s foremost environmental consulting firms verified that our pipeline would generate lower

greenhouse gas emissions than barges. As we've said all along, Pilgrim offers a safer, more efficient and more environmentally sound option to transport the region's critical fuels."

The proposed pipeline would carry refined products like home heating oil, gasoline, diesel, and kerosene to the north and crude oil southbound. The pipeline would handle an estimated 200,000 barrels in each direction each day (a total of 73 million barrels annually), roughly the amount of fuels currently transported along the Hudson by other modes of transportation.

Both the [New York State application](#) and the [ERM study](#) can be found on the Pilgrim Pipeline website at www.pilgrimpipeline.com.

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