A RESOLUTION BY THE COUNTY OF DAVIDSON URGING THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION AND THE NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TO MEANINGFULLY ADDRESS SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS REGARDING THE SOUTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS the Davidson County Board of Commissioners is committed to protecting the health, safety, welfare, environment, and economic interests of all residents of Davidson County;

WHEREAS the proposed Southeast Supply Enhancement Project (SSEP), proposed by the Williams Companies including Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation (collectively "Transco"), would include the construction of new pipeline infrastructure through portions of Davidson County and neighboring jurisdictions, adding approximately 28 miles of pipeline adjacent to existing Transco pipelines, as well as the addition of three new natural gas-fired turbines and emergency generators at an existing pumping station in Lexington;

WHEREAS, SSEP is proposed as an expansion that will provide significant incremental supplies of natural gas energy for residential, commercial, and industrial customers in the region, and to meet future supply demands;

WHEREAS the SSEP has raised a range of concerns for citizens, including, but not limited to, public safety risks, water resource impacts, and environmental degradation;

WHEREAS the Davidson County-specific public safety concerns include residential neighborhoods and schools within the direct elevated-risk radius or potential emergency evacuation zone in the case of a leak, fire, or explosion involving the SSEP; including running the new pipeline beneath three existing pipelines approximately 1,000 feet northwest of Wallburg Elementary School, which is located on NC Highway 109;

WHEREAS the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is the federal agency vested with the authority and responsibility to conduct comprehensive environmental reviews, evaluate public comments, and determine whether proposed energy infrastructure projects are in the public interest; and

WHEREAS the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) is responsible for reviewing applications for water and air discharge permits, and ensuring that applicants comply with state and federal environmental rules and standards.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Davidson County respectfully urges the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality to:

1. Fully consider the health, safety, environmental, economic, and quality-of-life concerns raised by Davidson County residents and other affected stakeholders regarding the Southeast Supply Enhancement Project;

2. Require a comprehensive Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) that rigorously evaluates all potential risks and alternatives to the proposed pipeline project, including a "no action" alternative;
3. Ensure that impacted communities in Davidson County are meaningfully consulted and that their input is reflected in any final determinations regarding the project's approval, route, and regulatory conditions;
4. Require Transco to submit plans for immediate notification of emergency events to affected residents and local emergency management agencies to ensure the public receives timely and effective communication that would enable residents to take appropriate protective action; and
5. Deny approval of the project and the issuance of required permits until all of the above steps have been satisfied.

Adopted this the 8th day of December 2025.

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Karen Watford, Chair
Davidson County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Deborah J. Harris, Clerk to the Board

COUNTY SEAL