

## VT Gas Pipeline Update

PHILLIP POUÉCH – SELECTBOARD MEMBER, HINESBURG

Posted on Hinesburg Front Porch Forum No. 1298 – February 1, 2013  
-----

Hello,

On Wednesday, Jan. 30, Town Administrator Joe Colangelo and I attended the Public Service Board (PSB) Pre-Conference Hearing concerning the proposed VT Gas Pipeline. There were many attendees to this meeting, including other affected towns, landowners, state agencies, VELCO, and environmental organizations.

The primary purpose of this hearing was to set the schedule for the PSB review of VT Gas's request for a Certificate of Public Good for the 43-mile long gas transmission line. The proposed route goes through Hinesburg.

VT. Gas presented to the PSB their intention to file an amendment to change the proposed route. For Hinesburg this means moving the pipeline from Baldwin Rd. to, or adjacent to, the VELCO right-of-way. VT. Gas stated they are working with land owners and other regulatory agencies to finalize this amendment.

The PSB insisted that VT Gas submit their amendment prior to additional hearings. VT Gas stated they would submit the amendment by February 28. Based on that date, the PSB tentatively scheduled the following hearings and dates:

- Public Hearing on March 21, 7:00pm Place TBD
- Interviews start March 29th - PSB in Montpelier
- Site visits and a second public hearing in late spring
- Actual hearings starting in Sept.

The Selectboard is presently deciding if the town should file to be a "party status" to this application. This would allow the town to testify during the evidentiary hearings. The Selectboard has also requested VT Gas to provide Hinesburg a public meeting so they can present the amended changes to the pipeline route after the amendment is submitted to the PSB.

The Town urges all affected and interested landowners to stay well-informed of these developments and make your voices heard by contacting the Selectboard, attending upcoming public meetings or directly contacting the PSB. Additional information can be found on the Hinesburg town website: <http://www.hinesburg.org/vt-gas-project/> and the PSB website: <http://psb.vermont.gov/>

Thanks