

New York Farm Bureau

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Assembly Bill 917 (Assemblywoman Lupardo)

IN RELATION TO REQUIRING CERTAIN INFORMATION TO BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

Date: 1/21/2017

New York Farm Bureau, the state's largest general farm advocacy organization, respectfully requests your support of this legislation. If enacted, it would increase the oversight by the Public Service Commission over low-pressure fuel gas transmissions lines in the state.

Many landowners and others have expressed concerns over the lack of oversight over low pressure gas transmissions lines by New York State. Currently, low pressure transmission—lines with pressures less than 125 pounds per square inch—are not regulated, inspected, or mapped in any systematic way. This can cause many problems for farmers that plow fields, homebuilders or utility workers that have no knowledge of the location of gas lines.

Expanding the information required by the Public Service Commission for the construction of gas transmission line in the public service law will increase the public awareness of the location for fuels lines of all pressures, not just high pressure transmission lines. Further, we anticipate that this bill will compel the Public Service Commission to both identify the location of these lines and monitor these lines for safety purpsoes.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your support of this legislation