January 29, 2020

Dear Governor Baker:

Greater Boston Physicians for Social Responsibility (GBPSR) is a non-profit organization of physicians and health professionals who are nationally recognized experts in public health, cancer epidemiology, occupational medicine, environmental health, emergency medicine, disaster preparedness, and the health effects of climate change.

We have spoken out repeatedly about the deeply flawed state and federal regulatory decision-making process that has allowed Enbridge to proceed with the construction of a ‘natural’ gas compressor station in Weymouth, Massachusetts -- a project that poses an immediate health threat to Enbridge’s workers, to neighboring residents, and to individuals exposed to the transported construction waste.

With this letter, we express our strongest possible support for the demands of Dr. Nathan Phillips, who today has initiated a hunger strike to oppose the clear and present danger of this project.

The demands are as follows:

1. All dump trucks leaving the site abide by the decontamination measures outlined on page 27 of the Release Abatement Measures plan of November 25, 2019, which require a decontamination pad/station and other measures to clean tires and exterior vehicle surfaces of site residue.
2. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection commences comprehensive testing for asbestos in furnace bricks and in the coal ash matrix, across and throughout the vertical profile of the North Parcel.
3. The Baker administration commits to a date certain, no later than two weeks from today, for the installation and operation of an air quality monitor as Governor Baker pledged action on ‘within a couple of days’ on Radio Boston on January 23, 2020.

Sincerely,

Regina LaRocque, MD MPH
GBPSR Board Members:

Matt Bivens, MD
John Belge, BSEE
Mirrett El-Hagrassy, MD
Ira Helfand, MD
Amy Hendrickson
Joseph Hodgkin, MD
Martha Ellen Katz, MD
Regina LaRocque, MD, MPH
Brita E. Lundberg, MD
Peter Moyer, MD, MPH
Krupa Patel, MD
Susan Racine, MD
Cornelia van der Ziel, MD

Cc:
Robert Hedlund, Mayor of Weymouth
Thomas P. Koch, Mayor of Quincy
Joseph C. Sullivan, Mayor of Braintree
Patrick M. O'Connor, Senator Plymouth and Norfolk
Ronald Mariano, Representative 3rd Norfolk
James M. Murphy, Representative 4th Norfolk
Gerard Martin, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Jana Ferguson, Director at Bureau of Environmental Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Stephen F. Lynch, Congressman 8th District of Massachusetts
Joe Kennedy, III, Congressman 4th District of Massachusetts
Elizabeth Warren, Senator of Massachusetts
Ed Markey, Senator of Massachusetts
James Doherty, TRC Companies, Inc.
John Sheridan, Enbridge, Inc.