Protestors Urge Cuomo To Deny Pipeline - The Wave



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## Protestors Urge Cuomo To Deny Pipeline

Anti-Williams demonstrators speak out at Brooklyn Bridge march The Wave on April 25, 2019

By Ralph Mancini



Patrick Houston of New York Communities For Change was among the

As the May 16 deadline for a pivotal Department of Conservation (DEC) permit approval draws closer, Public Advocate Jumaane Williams and action group reps united to send a clear message to Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

A directive to "stand up now" and pull the cord on the Northeast Enhancement Supply project (NESE) was issued by Williams, as he joined 500 New Yorkers who marched across the Brooklyn Bridge on April 18.

The show of solidarity saw local action groups— collectively known as The Stop the Williams Pipeline Coalition— challenge the governor to deliver on his promises to actively combat climate change when he recently came out in support of the Green New Deal.

May 16. in many respects, is being viewed as a moment of truth since Cuomo has the

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The proposed infrastructure would run through Lower New York Bay from New Jersey to Queens before connecting to an existing pipeline off the shores of Rockaway Beach.

Among those at the protest was Sane Energy Project Core Member JK Canepa, who spoke about how impressed she was by the turnout and the public's general attitude concerning the specter of more fracked gas running through local waters.

She told The Wave: "It's clear the people of NYC do not want this pipeline. We garnered over 17,000 signatures to our petition to the governor asking him to stop the Williams NESE. It's now up to Cuomo to decide if he will side with the people and our future generations or with the corporations that further strain our ability to sustain life on the planet. Will he stand with us to build the renewable world we know is possible?"

Further, she was grateful for the presence of indigenous elders from the Cree and Lakota nations who cautioned the crowd about the metastasis of pipelines throughout the USA and beyond, at a time when the atmosphere and oceans cannot hold more carbon.



Demonstrators sent a message to Gov. Andrew Cuomo to "Walk the Talk."

"We are in alliance with the passionate and brilliant young people singing and marching

over the bridge, keenly aware their future is at stake. Many thanks as well to our Public Advocate Jumaane Williams for taking a stand against the expensive, unnecessary and deeply destructive Williams NESE pipeline."

The voices of Canepa and other environmentalists are sure to grow louder in the coming weeks as the deadline is now less than a month away.

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