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Dear Friends,

I apologize that I'm not able to be with you today, in person, but please know that I am with you in spirit.

I'm so pleased that people are continuing to stand up on this critical issue, and continuing to make their voices heard. Thank you for what you are doing.

Let me be clear: I believe that this pipeline is irresponsible. The proposed route was made with little consideration for the environment, cutting through land that has been permanently conserved by multigenerational farmers, individual land owners, land trusts, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The majority of this land has been protected with tax dollars and donations.

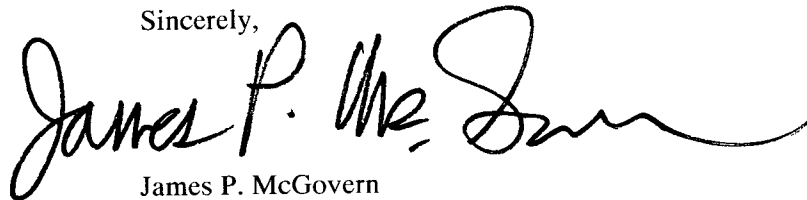
But the impact of this pipeline would go far beyond the environmental damage. It would cut through local farms and properties with no regard to the lives and livelihoods of small farmers who have worked their land for generations.

I have heard – loudly and overwhelmingly -- from constituents in opposition to the pipeline. If we allow a corporation to disregard conservation agreements and the voices of the people, what kind of example does that set? What kind of precedent does that create?

We say no. We say that this pipeline simply does not live up to the values and priorities of the people of this Commonwealth. And we will continue to say it. We will continue to make our voices heard. We will continue to fight. And I am confident that in the end we will prevail.

Thank you, and I hope to be with you again soon.

Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress