

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-68

OPPOSING THE NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS 24% RATE INCREASE

WHEREAS, New Jersey Natural Gas is a public utility operating in the Township of Aberdeen, County of Monmouth providing natural gas energy to our residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Natural Gas has proposed raising gas rates by 24% on Aberdeen residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, the proposed 24% rate increase by New Jersey Natural Gas would increase an average Aberdeen homeowner's gas bill by \$260.00 a year; and

WHEREAS, while proposing such an increase, New Jersey Natural Gas paid their top executives \$13 Million in total compensation in 2015, a number 125% higher than 2013; and

WHEREAS, Aberdeen Township Council have worked to keep municipal taxes flat for years to attempt to keep Aberdeen an affordable place for working class families and senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, Aberdeen residents and business owners cannot afford to see their utility rates increase by 24%; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council have an obligation to advocate on behalf of their residents and business owners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Aberdeen, County of Monmouth, that the 24% rate increase proposed by New Jersey Natural Gas is an excessive and unreasonable burden to Aberdeen's residents and business owners and must not be implemented.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Aberdeen call upon all elected officials and government agencies in a position to block this increase to do so in the best interests of Aberdeen citizens and businesses.