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**PRESS STATEMENT:**

**VICTORY! NJ Governor Murphy Denies All NESE Permits**

**Long Branch, NJ** – Following the State of New York’s denial of all permits for the Northeast Supply Enhancement pipeline project (NESE), the State of New Jersey also denied all permits for the proposed project. In a letter on May 15, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) stated, “The NJDEP hereby denies the NESE Project applications and the referenced permits due to the applicant’s failure to demonstrate compliance as described herein.”

“NESE is finally dead in the water! Three cheers for the hard work of the coalition on both sides of the ocean in the NY/NJ region, and the thousands of citizens who rallied to stop NESE,” said **Cindy Zipf, Executive Director of Clean Ocean Action**. “We salute NJ Governor Murphy and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection for recognizing that this project would have devastated the environment, and is and will always be UN-NESE-SARY!”

“This is a victory for the thousands of citizens and dozens of organizations that spent years and countless hours signing petitions, writing and sending comments, attending rallies, hearings, and meetings, and engaging their communities in actions to stop NESE once and for all,” said **Kari Martin, Advocacy Campaign Manager of Clean Ocean Action**. “This is also a victory for our air, land, and water.”

“In a sweeping victory for the environment, New Jersey doubled down on its commitment to a clean energy future by denying crucial permits for NESE,” said **Peter Blair, Policy Attorney for Clean Ocean Action**. “If approved, the project would have resulted in drastic environmental damage and locked the region into decades of continued reliance on climate-altering fracked gas. This denial is a tremendous win, future-proofing our environment for generations to come. We applaud the leadership of Governor Murphy and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.”

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