
Docket #3880 – 307 Washington Street

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To ZBA <ZBA@town.arlington.ma.us>

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Dear Zoning Board of Appeals,

I am writing out of concern for Docket #3880, in which Boston Gas Company proposes to cut down trees in order to build a new, larger natural gas compression station at 307 Washington Street.

More and more residents in Arlington are transitioning away from fossil fuels by installing electricity-powered heat pumps to heat their houses. Also, new construction uses better insulation and thus requires less gas for heat. Therefore, it would be expected that natural gas consumption in Arlington will decrease in the future. What assumptions were used for Boston Gas Company's analysis that led them to believe that a larger compression station might be needed?

There is an existing natural gas compression station at 305 Washington Street. Is it necessary to cut down the many mature trees at 307 Washington Street to build a new compression station? Instead, if the existing station is in need of repairs, would it be possible to renovate the existing station at 305 Washington Street? Cutting down mature shade trees decreases the attractiveness of the street and increases the heat load on neighboring houses in the summer.

Sincerely,

Karen Thomas-Alyea

resident of Newport Street in Arlington