



100 Pine Street • PO Box 1166 • Harrisburg, PA 17108-1166  
Tel: 717.232.8000 • Fax: 717.237.5300

Robert A. Weishaar, Jr.  
Direct Dial: 202.898.5700  
Direct Fax: 717.260.1765  
rweishaar@mwn.com

March 21, 2014

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

**RE: Petition of Sunoco Pipeline L. P. for a Finding That The Situation of Structures to Shelter Pump Stations and Valve Control Stations Is Reasonably Necessary for the Convenience or Welfare of the Public;  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_, et al.**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

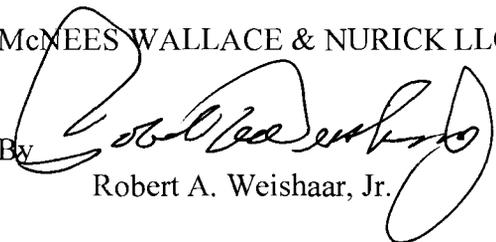
Attached for filing with the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission is the Petition of Sunoco Pipeline L.P. (SPLP") for a Finding That The Situation of Structures to Shelter Pump Stations and Valve Control Stations Is Reasonably Necessary for the Convenience or Welfare of the Public.

The attached Certificate of Service lists the parties being served with a copy of this document. Thank you.

Sincerely,

McNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC

By

  
Robert A. Weishaar, Jr.

Counsel to Sunoco Pipeline L.P.

c: Certificate of Service

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the participants listed below in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54 (relating to service by a participant).

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John R. Evans, Esquire  
Office of Small Business Advocate  
Suite 1102, Commerce Building  
300 North Second Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Tanya McCloskey, Esquire  
Aron J. Beatty, Esquire  
Office of Consumer Advocate  
555 Walnut Street  
Forum Place - 5th Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1921

Johnnie Simms, Esquire  
Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street, 2nd Floor West  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Robert Zundell, Chairman  
Salem Township Board of Supervisors  
244 Congruity Rd.  
Greensburg, PA 15601

Lynn Cain  
Salem Township Planning Commission  
244 Congruity Rd.  
Greensburg, PA 15601

Tony Distefano, Supervisor  
Burrell Township Board of Supervisors  
321 Park Drive  
Blacklick, PA 15716

Kenneth A. Umholtz, Chairman  
E. Wheatfield Board of Supervisors  
1114 Rt. 56  
East Armagh, PA 15920

David Hoover, Supervisor  
Cambria Township Board of Supervisors  
184 Municipal Rd.  
Ebensburg, PA 15931

Dennis Simmers, Chairman  
Cambria Township Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 248  
Revloc, PA 15948

David E. Burchfield, Jr., Chairman  
Allegheny Township Board of Supervisors  
3131 Colonial Dr.  
Duncansville, PA 16635

Bruce J. Pergament, Supervisor  
Penn Township Board of Supervisors  
12281 Redstone Ridge Rd.  
Hesston, PA 16647

Judith A. Hicks, Chairwoman  
Shirley Township Board of Supervisors  
15480 Croghan Pike  
Shirleysburg, PA 17260

John McGarvey, Chair  
Shirley Township Planning Commission  
15480 Croghan Pike  
Shirleysburg, PA 17260

James J. Henry, Chairman  
Toboyne Township Board of Supervisors  
50 Lower Buck Ridge Rd.  
Blain, PA 17006

James H. Turner, Chairman  
Tri-County Regional Planning Commission  
Dauphin County Veterans Memorial Building  
112 Market Street, 2nd Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

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Lower Frankford Township  
Board of Supervisors  
1205 Easy Rd.  
Carlisle, PA 17015

Craig Houston, Chairman  
Lower Frankford Township  
Planning Commission  
1205 Easy Rd.  
Carlisle, PA 17015

Al Bienstock, President  
Hampden Township Board of Commissioners  
230 South Sporting Hill Rd.  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Philip Klotz, Chairman  
Hampden Township Planning Commission  
230 South Sporting Hill Rd.  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

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Londonderry Township Board of Supervisors  
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Londonderry Township Planning Commission  
783 S. Geyers Church Rd.  
Middletown, PA 17057

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Board of Supervisors  
73 South Zinns Mill Rd.  
Lebanon, PA 17042

Dewey Yoder  
West Cornwall Township  
Planning Commission  
73 South Zinns Mill Rd.  
Lebanon, PA 17042

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West Cocalico Township  
Board of Supervisors  
P.O. Box 244  
Reinholds, PA 17569

Leon Eby, Chairman  
West Cocalico Township  
Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 244  
Reinholds, PA 17569

Patti Smith, Chairman  
Spring Township Board of Supervisors  
2850 Windmill Rd.  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

James R. Oswald, Chairman  
Spring Township Planning Commission  
2850 Windmill Rd.  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

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889 Alleghenyville Rd.  
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889 Alleghenyville Rd.  
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Planning Commission  
140 Pottstown Pike  
Chester Springs, PA 19425

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1025 Paoli Pike  
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Monica Drowniany, Chair  
West Goshen Township  
Planning Commission  
1025 Paoli Pike  
West Chester, PA 19380

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Upper Chichester Board of Commissioners  
P.O. Box 2187  
Upper Chichester, PA 19061

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Upper Chichester Planning Commission  
P.O. Box 2187  
Upper Chichester, PA 19061

Jodi Noble, Township Manager  
Chartiers Township  
2 Buccaneer Dr.  
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Lee Nickovich, Chairman  
Chartiers Township Planning Commission  
2 Buccaneer Dr.  
Houston, PA 15342

Frank Siffrinn, Township Manager  
North Strabane Township  
1929 Route 519  
Canonsburg, PA 15317

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North Strabane Township  
1929 Route 519  
Canonsburg, PA 15317

Andrew Tullai, Chairman  
Union Township Board of Supervisors  
3904 Finleyville-Elrama Road  
Finleyville, PA 15332

Carl DeiCas, Chair  
Union Township Board of Supervisors  
3904 Finleyville-Elrama Road  
Finleyville, PA 15332

Tamira Spedaliere, Township Planner  
Rostraver Township  
201 Municipal Drive  
Belle Vernon, PA 15012

Douglas Weimer, Chairman  
Hempfield Township Board of Supervisors  
1132 Woodward Drive, Suite A  
Greensburg, PA 15601-9310

Phil Shelapinsky, Chairperson  
Hempfield Township Planning Commission  
1132 Woodward Drive, Suite A  
Greensburg, PA 15601-9310

Bruce Light, Township Manager  
Penn Township  
2001 Municipal Court  
Harrison City, PA 15636-1349

Phillip Miller, Chairman  
Penn Township Planning Commission  
2001 Municipal Court  
Harrison City, PA 15636-1349

Vincent DeCario, Chairman  
Derry Township Board of Supervisors  
5231 Route 982  
Derry, PA 15627

George Henry, Chairman  
Frankstown Township Board of Supervisors  
2122 Frankstown Road  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

Bruce J. Pergament, Supervisor  
Penn Township Board of Supervisors  
12281 Redstone Ridge Road  
Hesston, PA 16647

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Harry Kelso, Chairman  
North Middleton Township  
Board of Supervisors  
2051 Spring Road  
Carlisle, PA 17013

Harry Kelso, Chairman  
North Middleton Township  
Planning Commission  
2051 Spring Road  
Carlisle, PA 17013

Robert P. Stanley, Jr.  
Fairview Township Board of Supervisors  
599 Lewisberry Road  
New Cumberland, PA 17070

Michael A. Powers  
Fairview Township Planning Commission  
599 Lewisberry Road  
New Cumberland, PA 17070

Thomas L. Mehaffie III, President  
Lower Swatara Township Board  
1499 Spring Garden Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057

Chauncey D. Knopp  
Lower Swatara Township  
Planning Commission  
1499 Spring Garden Drive  
Middletown, PA 17057  
Patti Smith, Chairman  
Spring Township Board of Supervisors  
2850 Windmill Rd.  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

James R. Oswald, Chairman  
Spring Township Planning Commission  
2850 Windmill Rd.  
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Rob Jones, Chairman  
Wallace Township Board of Supervisors  
1250 Creek Road  
P.O. Box 670  
Glen Moore, PA 19343

John Frommeyer, Chairman  
Wallace Township Planning Commission  
1250 Creek Road  
P.O. Box 670  
Glen Moore, PA 19343



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Counsel to Sunoco Pipeline, L.P.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2014, at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Petition of Sunoco Pipeline L.P. for a Finding That The Situation of Structures to Shelter Pump Stations and Valve Control Stations Is Reasonably Necessary for the Convenience or Welfare of the Public	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Salem Township, Westmoreland County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Burrell Township, Indiana County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(East Wheatfield Township, Indiana County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Cambria Township, Cambria County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Allegheny Township, Blair County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Penn Township, Huntingdon County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Shirley Township, Huntingdon County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Toboyne Township, Perry County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Lower Frankford Township, Cumberland County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Hampden Township, Cumberland County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Londonderry Township, Dauphin County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(West Cocalico Township, Lancaster County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Spring Township, Berks County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Brecknock Township, Berks County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(West Goshen Township, Chester County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Upper Chichester Township, Delaware County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Chartiers Township, Washington County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(North Strabane Township, Washington County)
	:	Docket No. P-2014-_____
	:	(Union Township, Washington County)

Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Hempfield Township, Westmoreland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Penn Township, Westmoreland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Loyalhanna Township, Westmoreland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Derry Township, Westmoreland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Frankstown Township, Blair County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(N. Middleton Township, Cumberland County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Fairview Township, York County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Lower Swatara Township, Dauphin County)  
Docket No. P-2014-\_\_\_\_\_  
(Wallace Township, Chester County)

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**PETITION OF SUNOCO PIPELINE L.P., AND REQUEST  
FOR EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION**

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Sunoco Pipeline L.P. ("SPLP"), in accordance with the provisions of 52 Pa. Code § 5.41 and 53 P.S. § 10619, hereby petitions the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("Commission" or "PUC") to issue an order finding that: (1) SPLP is a public utility corporation, and (2) the situation of SPLP's buildings to shelter pump stations and valve control stations in 31 Pennsylvania municipalities is reasonably necessary for the convenience and welfare of the public and, therefore, that the buildings are exempt from any local zoning, subdivision, and land development regulations. SPLP also requests expedited consideration of the Petition. In support of this Petition, SPLP states as follows:

## I. Background and Overview

1. SPLP's attorneys in this proceeding are:

Robert A. Weishaar, Jr.  
777 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20002  
Telephone: (202) 898-5700  
Facsimile: (717) 260-1765  
Email: [rweishaa@mwn.com](mailto:rweishaa@mwn.com)

Adeolu A. Bakare  
Teresa K. Schmittberger  
100 Pine Street  
P.O. Box 1166  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1166  
Telephone: (717) 232-8000  
Facsimile: (717) 260-1688  
Email: [abakare@mwn.com](mailto:abakare@mwn.com)  
[tschmittberger@mwn.com](mailto:tschmittberger@mwn.com)

2. SPLP is a public utility corporation under the provisions of Section 619 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code ("MPC").<sup>1</sup> SPLP owns and operates, or will own and operate, facilities within the Commonwealth for the interstate transportation of petroleum products, including ethane and propane, for the public.<sup>2</sup>

3. SPLP is currently engaged in developing a pipeline project called "Mariner East," which involves a combination of the construction of new pipeline facilities and the use of existing pipeline facilities that will transport ethane and propane. The origination point of Mariner East will be in Houston, Pennsylvania; the delivery point will be located in Claymont, Delaware, within the Marcus Hook Refinery complex.

4. The purpose of Mariner East is to increase transportation infrastructure in the Commonwealth for the movement of Marcellus Shale resources. The abundance of shale gas in Pennsylvania has revitalized local economies across the state, enhanced the country's energy supply portfolio, and redefined global energy markets. Although Marcellus Shale production has flourished in recent years, the full potential of Pennsylvania shale gas remains hampered by limited pipeline infrastructure for transporting shale gas and associated natural gas liquids.

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<sup>1</sup> SPLP's classification as a public utility corporation under the MPC is further elaborated in Section II, *infra*.

<sup>2</sup> 53 P.S. § 10619.

Mariner East will use SPLP's existing pipeline infrastructure from Delmont, Pennsylvania to Claymont, Delaware, supplemented by construction of additional facilities from Houston, Pennsylvania to Delmont, Pennsylvania, to transport ethane and propane. As the Commission has recognized in an earlier proceeding, providing a commercial outlet for ethane and propane will enhance the production of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale region.<sup>3</sup>

5. As part of the construction of new pipeline facilities, SPLP will be required to construct pump stations at various locations to facilitate transportation of ethane and propane. These pump stations will be enclosed by metal housing. There is a total of 18 new pump stations along Mariner East for which SPLP seeks a Section 619 exemption. These new pump stations will be located in 18 different municipalities of the Commonwealth. Exhibit A provides a list of each of these pump stations and their locations. SPLP is requesting that each of these pump stations be assigned a separate docket number.

6. In addition, at various points along the new pipeline, SPLP also must construct valve control stations to ensure that ethane and propane are transported safely. Similar to the pump stations, the valve control stations will be located within metal housing. There will be a total of 17 new valve control stations along Mariner East for which SPLP seeks a Section 619 exemption. These new valve control stations will be located in 15 different municipalities of the Commonwealth. Exhibit B provides a list of each of these valve control stations and their locations. SPLP is requesting that each of these valve control stations be assigned a separate docket number.

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<sup>3</sup> See *Application of Sunoco Pipeline L.P. for a Certificate of Public Convenience to Abandon a Portion of its Petroleum Products Pipeline Transportation Service in Pennsylvania*, Opinion and Order, Docket No. A-2013-2371789 (August 29, 2013, as amended November 14, 2013) (holding that SPLP may abandon service in certain locations in order to develop the Mariner East project, based on SPLP's showing of the public benefits associated with Mariner East).

## II. SPLP Is A Public Utility Corporation Under Pennsylvania Law

7. The Commission's jurisdiction to consider the instant Petition arises out of the MPC.<sup>4</sup> Pursuant to this statute, the Commission considers whether exemption from zoning, subdivision, and land development ordinances is appropriate for any "public utility corporation." *Id.* Although the term "public utility corporation" is not defined in the MPC, the term has been clarified through appellate court decisions interpreting the MPC and the term is defined in other Pennsylvania statutes. Appellate precedent identifies certain characteristics and indicia of "public utility corporation" status under the MPC. As discussed in more detail below, SPLP is subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") under the Interstate Commerce Act ("ICA") with respect to the interstate service it will be providing on Mariner East and, as such, meets all of the characteristics and indicia of a "public utility corporation" as that term applies to the MPC. The term "public utility corporation" in the MPC should also be interpreted consistently with its definition and use in other Pennsylvania statutes. As discussed in more detail below, the Pennsylvania Business Corporations Law ("BCL") includes a definition of "public utility corporation." SPLP meets that definition as well. Under Pennsylvania law, SPLP is a public utility corporation with respect to the interstate service it will be providing on Mariner East.

8. The term "public utility corporation" as used in the MPC is broader than the definition of "public utility" in Section 102 of the Public Utility Code because, among other things, the MPC term includes federally regulated entities whereas Section 102 of the Public

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<sup>4</sup> 53 P.S. § 10619.

Utility Code does not.<sup>5</sup> In *WVCH Communications*, the Commonwealth Court found that an entity is a "public utility corporation," under the MPC, even if it is a federally regulated common carrier.<sup>6</sup> The Commonwealth Court in *WVCH Communications* also identified several factors, as follows, that help determine whether the nature of the federal regulation is regulation as a "public utility corporation": (a) serves all members of the public upon reasonable request; (b) charges just and reasonable rates subject to review by a regulatory body; (c) files tariffs specifying its charges; and (d) modifies or discontinues its service with the approval of a regulatory agency.<sup>7</sup> The Commonwealth Court did not determine whether a public utility corporation must meet all of these factors, as the subject entity in that case met none of the four factors.<sup>8</sup>

9. Because SPLP is a federally regulated common carrier under the ICA, SPLP is a public utility corporation under the MPC. SPLP meets all of the *WVCH Communications* factors that distinguish entities that qualify as a public utility corporation from those entities that do not. SPLP is subject to regulation under the ICA that qualifies, under Pennsylvania law, as public utility regulation. Section 1(4) of the ICA provides that it is "the duty of every common carrier subject to this chapter to provide and furnish transportation upon reasonable request therefor."<sup>9</sup> Section 1(5) of the ICA requires that all charges shall be just and reasonable, and declares every

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<sup>5</sup> Although SPLP's status as a "public utility corporation" is the relevant inquiry for purposes of this proceeding, SPLP also remains a "public utility" relative to its regulation by the Commission under the Public Utility Code. See 66 Pa. C.S. §§ 102, 1101. SPLP is the current holder of multiple PUC Certificates of Public Convenience ("CPCs") authorizing shipments by pipeline in Pennsylvania. The PUC granted SPLP's request to abandon a part of its intrastate service, and suspend certain service segments, finding that SPLP demonstrated public benefits for transportation of natural gas liquids and petroleum products. PUC Order at Docket Nos. A-2013-2371789, P-2013-2371775 (August 29, 2013, *as amended* November 14, 2013). Notwithstanding these partial abandonments, SPLP continues to hold CPCs for other intrastate services in Pennsylvania, including CPCs for service along the same route where Mariner East will be located.

<sup>6</sup> See *Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n v. WVCH Commc'ns*, 361 A.2d 328, 330 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1976).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> 49 U.S.C. App. § 1(4).

unjust and unreasonable charge to be unlawful.<sup>10</sup> Section 1(6) of the ICA requires that terms and conditions of transportation service be just and reasonable:

It is made the duty of all common carriers subject to the provisions of this chapter to establish, observe, and enforce just and reasonable classifications of property for transportation, with reference to which rates, tariffs, regulations, or practices are or may be made or prescribed, and just and reasonable regulations and practices . . . and every unjust and unreasonable classification, regulation, and practice is prohibited and declared to be unlawful.<sup>11</sup>

Sections 2 and 3(1) of the ICA prohibit unjust discrimination and undue or unreasonable preferences, respectively.<sup>12</sup> Section 6(1) of the ICA requires that rates and charges applicable to oil pipeline transportation be in a tariff filed at FERC. The pipeline's rates and charges must be filed and published, and the pipeline may not charge a greater, lesser, or different compensation for transportation or any service other than the rates and charges specified in the tariff. The pipeline also may not extend to any shipper any privileges or facilities except those specified in the tariff.<sup>13</sup> Section 6(3) provides that changes may be made to tariffs only upon 30 days' prior notice to the public and FERC.<sup>14</sup> Under Section 15(7), FERC, on its own initiative or in response to a complaint, can suspend tariff filings for up to seven months and institute investigations into the lawfulness of the rates. At the end of the suspension period, rates may go into effect subject to refund.<sup>15</sup> Section 13 provides that at any time after rates are effective, FERC may investigate the lawfulness of rates and practices on its own motion or in response to a complaint filed by any person or state regulatory commission. It may prescribe changes in rates if it finds the existing rates are unreasonable.<sup>16</sup> Finally, a change in tariff provisions to

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<sup>10</sup> *Id.* § 1(5)(a).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* § 1(6).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* §§ 2, 3(1).

<sup>13</sup> *Id.* § 6(1).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.* § 6(3).

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* § 15(7).

<sup>16</sup> *Id.* § 13.

discontinue an ICA-jurisdictional service may be subject to FERC review upon protest by a shipper.<sup>17</sup> As a result, FERC's regulation of SPLP under the ICA meets all the necessary indicia, under Pennsylvania law, to qualify SPLP as a public utility corporation under the MPC.

10. As noted above, the term "public utility corporation" is not defined in the MPC. However, the term is defined in another Pennsylvania statute – namely, Section 1103 of the BCL. Section 1103 of the BCL defines "public utility corporation" as:

Any domestic or foreign corporation for profit that (1) is subject to regulation as a public utility by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission or an officer or agency of the United States; or (2) was subject to such regulation on December 31, 1980, or would have been so subject if it had been then existing.<sup>18</sup>

Rules of statutory construction require that the term "public utility corporation" in the MPC be read and interpreted consistently with the term "public utility corporation" as used in the BCL.<sup>19</sup> The definition in Section 1103 of the BCL is, therefore, relevant and persuasive in the context of this Petition. As evident from the plain language of Section 1103, the regulation that triggers public utility corporation status may be either state regulation by this Commission or federal regulation by "an agency of the United States," such as FERC. Committee Comments to Sections 1103 and 1511 of the BCL illustrate the legislature's intended broad scope of the definition of "public utility corporation." The Comments state, in relevant part, that "if the Federal Communications Commission ["FCC"] deregulates interexchange service, facilities for such service would still be entitled to the benefits of this section" as a public utility corporation.<sup>20</sup> The reference to "interexchange service" providers evidences the legislature's intent to include federally regulated common carriers within the definition of "public utility corporation."

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<sup>17</sup> See *Amoco Pipeline Co.*, 83 FERC ¶ 61156, 61672 (May 14, 1998) ("The Commission ... has jurisdiction to consider the proposed cancellation of individual movements as proposed by Amoco....").

<sup>18</sup> 15 Pa. C.S. § 1103.

<sup>19</sup> 1 Pa. C.S. § 1932.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.*

Interexchange service providers are regulated by the FCC as common carriers under the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended by the Telecommunications Act of 1996), just as SPLP, as a provider of interstate pipeline service on Mariner East, is regulated as a common carrier under the ICA.<sup>21</sup> As evident from the Comment, the legislature intended that the term "public utility corporation" include entities that are federally regulated as common carriers. Second, the plain language in subpart (2) of the definition, coupled with the associated Comment, evidence the legislature's intent that "public utility corporation" be interpreted expansively so as to account for changes in regulation over time. Subpart (2) of the definition and the Comment make clear that the assessment of the nature of the regulation could occur either presently or as the entity was or would have been regulated as of December 31, 1980.<sup>22</sup> Entities that were subject to regulation as a public utility on December 31, 1980 still qualify as a public utility corporation, even if they are no longer subject to such regulation as a result of deregulation in their industry.<sup>23</sup> The bottom-line is that the plain language of Section 1103, and the Committee Comments on that section, evidence clear legislative intent that the term "public utility corporation" must be read to include, rather than exclude, entities that are subject to federal regulation as common carriers.

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<sup>21</sup> 47 U.S.C.A. § 153 (defining common carrier "as any person engaged as a common carrier for hire, in interstate or foreign communication by wire or radio or interstate or foreign radio transmission of energy, except where reference is made to common carriers not subject to this chapter; but a person engaged in radio broadcasting shall not, insofar as such person is so engaged, be deemed a common carrier").

<sup>22</sup> See 15 Pa.C.S. § 1103(2).

<sup>23</sup> In 1992, Congress enacted regulatory reform for oil pipelines by directing FERC to streamline oil pipeline ratemaking procedures; however, the basic statutory standards and rate requirements remain. See Energy Policy Act of 1992 §§ 1801-1804, Pub. L. No. 102-486, 106 Stat. 2776 (codified in scattered sections of 15 U.S.C., 16 U.S.C., 26 U.S.C., 30 U.S.C., and 42 U.S.C.). In response to the 1992 statutory directive from Congress, FERC adopted regulations specifying a simplified and generally applicable ratemaking methodology for oil pipelines that uses an index system to establish ceiling rate levels. See 18 C.F.R. pt. 342. Although SPLP's current regulation by FERC meets all relevant standards under Pennsylvania law to qualify SPLP as a "public utility corporation," should the Commission find otherwise, that is not the end of the inquiry. The Commission would then need to assess the nature of SPLP's regulation, under the ICA, as that regulation existed as of December 31, 1980. SPLP reserves the right to present additional arguments and evidence if that circumstance arises.

11. Finally, SPLP qualifies as a public utility corporation under Pennsylvania Supreme Court precedent that provides other, more straightforward indicia of "public utility" status. For example, whether an enterprise is private or public does not depend on the number or types of persons served, but whether or not the service to be provided is open to all members of the public that may require the offered service.<sup>24</sup> The test for determining whether utility services are being offered "for the public" is "whether or not such person holds himself out, expressly or impliedly, as engaged in the business of supplying his product or service to the public, as a class, or *to any limited portion of it*, as contradistinguished from holding himself out as serving or ready to serve only particular individuals."<sup>25</sup> "The fact that only a limited number of persons may have occasion to use a utility's service does not make it a private undertaking if the general public has a right to subscribe to such a service."<sup>26</sup> The Court has also found that the provision of non-discriminatory service is the primary distinction between public utilities and entities that are not public utilities.<sup>27</sup> As concerns Mariner East, and as required under the ICA, the service is open to all members of the public, on a non-discriminatory basis, through FERC open season requirements.<sup>28</sup> Consequently, under the determinative factor set forth in *Drexelbrook*, *Waltman*, and *Lafferty*, SPLP's service on Mariner East qualifies under Pennsylvania law as public utility service.

12. After consideration of the standards enunciated in the MPC, *WVCH Communications*, the definition of public utility corporation in the BCL, and the additional support for public utility status under several Pennsylvania Supreme Court cases, SPLP clearly

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<sup>24</sup> *Drexelbrook Associates v. Pa. PUC*, 418 Pa. 430, 435, 212 A.2d 237, 239 (Pa. 1965).

<sup>25</sup> *Waltman v. Pa. PUC*, 596 A.2d 1221, 1223-24 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1991), citing *Drexelbrook*, 212 A.2d at 239 (emphasis in the original).

<sup>26</sup> *Waltman*, 596 A.2d at 1224; *Masgai v. Public Service Comm'n*, 124 Pa. Super. 370, 188 A. 599 (1936).

<sup>27</sup> *See Commw. v. Lafferty*, 426 Pa. 541, 550, 233 A.2d 256, 260 (Pa. 1967).

<sup>28</sup> *See Sunoco Pipeline L.P.*, 142 FERC ¶ 61,115 P 16 (2013)(FERC order describing SPLP's open season process for Mariner East).

qualifies as a public utility corporation based on FERC's regulation of SPLP's service on Mariner East under the ICA. SPLP respectfully requests that the Commission find that SPLP is a public utility corporation.

**III. The Situation Of The Buildings Along Mariner East Is Reasonably Necessary For the Convenience Or Welfare Of The Public**

13. In addition to finding that SPLP is a public utility corporation, the Commission must also find that the situation of the buildings that are necessary for Mariner East are reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public. Section 619 of the Pennsylvania MPC, 53 P.S. § 10619, provides in relevant part:

This article shall not apply to any existing or proposed building, or any extension thereof, used or to be used by a public utility corporation, if, upon petition of the corporation, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission shall, after public hearing, decide that the present or proposed situation of the building in question is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.

14. It is well established under Pennsylvania law that uses and structures of public utility corporations may be exempt from local zoning, subdivision, and land development ordinances.<sup>29</sup> Under the provisions of 53 P. S. § 10619, an existing or proposed public utility corporation "building" may be subject to local zoning, subdivision, and land development regulations, unless the present or proposed situation of the building is found by the Commission to be "reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public."<sup>30</sup>

15. This Petition involves the situation of buildings in 31 municipalities, each with individual zoning, subdivision, and land development requirements.<sup>31</sup> The local ordinances in

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<sup>29</sup> *Duquesne Light Co. v. Upper St. Clair Township*, 105 A.2d 287, 292 (Pa. 1954); *Newtown Twp. v. Phila. Elec. Co.*, 594 A.2d 834, 836 (Commw. Ct. 1991) (holding that approval of the building exemption for a utility provides exemption from zoning, subdivision, and land development ordinances).

<sup>30</sup> 53 P. S. § 10619.

<sup>31</sup> Due to the number of implicated local ordinances, SPLP has not included with this Petition all of the relevant local ordinances. See *Re Trans-Allegheny Interstate Line Company*, 2008 WL 5786507 (Pa. P.U.C. 2008), 33. If the Commission would like a copy of these ordinances, SPLP will supplement this Petition.

these municipalities may impose restrictions on SPLP concerning construction of the buildings discussed herein. SPLP has been coordinating with each of the affected municipalities, and has initiated approval processes with the affected municipalities. SPLP pledges to continue its coordination efforts with the affected municipalities during the pendency of this Petition. However, without Commission exemption as requested herein, SPLP may be prevented by one or more municipalities from constructing the buildings for pump or valve control stations that are necessary for the completion and operation of Mariner East. To ensure that otherwise applicable local ordinances will not bar SPLP's efforts to provide service for the welfare and convenience of the public, SPLP is filing the instant Petition and contends that the proposed situation of the pump and valve control stations is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.

16. The Commission has held that buildings are reasonably necessary for the conveniences of welfare of the public when the buildings present public benefits, which may include "protection of sensitive measuring equipment, the protection for personnel performing maintenance on this equipment," among others.<sup>32</sup> In addition, the Commission does not require that the site selected for the buildings be the "best possible site," but, instead, only that the site chosen be "reasonably necessary..." for the convenience or welfare of the public.<sup>33</sup>

17. The pump stations are reasonably necessary to facilitate the transportation of ethane and propane through the Mariner East pipeline facilities. As ethane and propane travel through the pipeline, the ethane and propane will lose energy and, eventually, without the existence of pump stations, stop flowing. Pump stations are used to inject energy into the flow

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<sup>32</sup> *Petition of UGI Penn Natural Gas Inc. for a Finding that Structures to Shelter Pipeline Facilities in the Borough of West Wyoming, Luzerne County, To the Extent Considered To be Buildings under Local Zoning Rules, Are Reasonably Necessary for The Convenience or Welfare of the Public*, 2013 WL 6835113 (Pa. P.U.C. 2013), 13.

<sup>33</sup> *See id.*; *see also O'Connor v. Pa. Pub. Util. Comm'n*, 582 A.2d 427, 433 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1990).

of ethane and propane through the pipeline. The pump stations are located at points along the pipeline where the energy for transporting ethane and propane drops below an acceptable level. SPLP has identified the minimum number of pump stations that will allow for an efficient flow of ethane and propane. Once an ideal location is identified for a pump station, the location is then refined to ensure site availability and an adequate electrical power source for the pump station, as the pumps themselves are electrically powered. Exhibit C contains a graph demonstrating that the locations of the pump stations are based on where the amount of fluid energy is dropping below sub-optimal levels. Each pump station has two structures that could be characterized as "buildings".<sup>34</sup> First, the structure surrounding the pump functions to reduce noise, protect the pump equipment from weather impacts, and allow for convenient maintenance of the pump equipment. In addition to this structure, each pump station has a power distribution center, which is a modular building that houses the electrical, control, and communication equipment.<sup>35</sup>

18. Valve control stations similarly provide a safety enhancement for the Mariner East pipeline facilities by monitoring the temperature and pressure of the ethane and propane. The valve control stations are programmed to automatically segment (i.e., cut off) flows on the line if the controls detect a loss in pressure. To ensure safety of the public, valve control stations are located at the nearest available site upstream of large concentrations of population. A refined

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<sup>34</sup> A picture of the housing for the pump stations is attached as Exhibit D. The housing for the valve control stations is similar in appearance.

<sup>35</sup> Although not relevant to this Petition because they do not involve "buildings," each pump station also includes a vapor combustion unit to contend with the loss of limited ethane and propane that converts into a gaseous state upon loss of pressure. The ethane and propane that travels through the pipeline remains in a liquid state as long as sufficient pressure is applied throughout the pipeline. During maintenance operations at the pump stations, however, reduction in pressure may cause the ethane and propane to convert into a gaseous state. The vapor combustion units ensure that these gases are not directly released into the atmosphere, which promotes safe and environmentally beneficial maintenance operations at the pump stations. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP") has indicated that the emissions from these units have a *de minimis* environmental impact.

site selection process occurs based on available sites in combination with available electrical infrastructure. The alignment of these factors (i.e., location relevant to population concentration, adequate power source, and available land) determines the precise location of a valve control site. Each of the valve control stations has a single building that protects the valve control stations against weather impacts and allows for convenient maintenance at each site. This structure, known as a power distribution center but smaller in size than the power distribution centers for pump stations, houses the electrical, control, and communication equipment for the valve control site.

19. The construction of these pump and valve control stations is an integral and necessary part of the development of the Mariner East project, and these stations and the project itself will provide benefits to the public. First, the locations of both pump and valve control stations are reasonably necessary to ensure efficient and safe operation of the new pipeline facilities. Second, the pump stations ensure that the ethane and propane are flowing properly, which contribute to the overall safety and efficiency of the project. The valve control stations ensure that the pipeline facilities operate safely and prevent harm to the public and environment. Both types of stations are enclosed with metal housing to protect the equipment from the elements and to facilitate maintenance. Finally, as a whole, the Mariner East project results in increased infrastructure to enable the continued development of Marcellus Shale resources, by providing for an efficient outlet for natural gas liquids that are extracted during the process of extracting natural gas from Marcellus Shale wells.

20. In the context of SPLP's abandonment application proceeding last year, the Commission found that abandonment of existing services in order to facilitate construction of the Mariner East project was necessary for the public convenience and welfare. Specifically, the

Commission held that "there are significant public benefits to be gained by approving the Application and Petition and that there is minimal impact on customers."<sup>36</sup> The situation of pump station buildings and valve control site buildings is another and near-final step in the development of Mariner East. For essentially the same reasons it granted SPLP's application for abandonment, the Commission should grant the exemptions requested in this petition. For all of the foregoing reasons, SPLP submits that SPLP's situation of pump station and valve control site buildings is reasonably necessary for the convenience and welfare of the public.

#### **IV. Request for Expedited Approval**

21. In accordance with the above request, with consideration of the public benefits associated with Mariner East, in light of the notice being provided to the affected municipalities as indicated by the attached Certificate of Service, and in light of the fact that approval processes are already underway in the affected townships, SPLP respectfully petitions for waiver of the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 5.14(d) requiring a Notice of the Petition to be published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and in a newspaper of general circulation serving the affected service territory.

22. In addition, SPLP has already been in discussions with each of the affected municipalities regarding this Petition and regarding the municipalities' individual zoning requirements. Because each of these municipalities is aware of the potential impacts of this Petition, and many have conducted their own public input hearings, SPLP further submits that there is no need for additional public input hearings to further consider this Petition.

23. Finally, following waiver of the Notice requirement or expiration of any applicable notice-and-comment period, SPLP further requests that the Commission take all

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<sup>36</sup> See *Application of Sunoco Pipeline L.P. for a Certificate of Public Convenience to Abandon a Portion of its Petroleum Products Pipeline Transportation Service in Pennsylvania*, Opinion and Order, Docket No. A-2013-2371789 (August 29, 2013, as amended November 14, 2013).

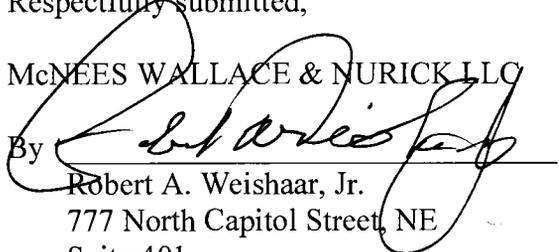
necessary and appropriate steps to enable approval of the Petition no later than the Commission's Public Meeting on June 19, 2014. If the order is not issued by this date, the Mariner East project may be delayed, depriving the public of the benefits described herein.

**V. Conclusion**

**WHEREFORE**, Sunoco Pipeline L.P. respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission find that, pursuant to Section 619 of the Municipalities Planning Code, 53 P.S. § 10619, SPLP is a public utility corporation and SPLP's situation of pump station and valve control site buildings is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public, and, therefore, exempt from all applicable local zoning, subdivision, and land development regulations. SPLP also requests expedited consideration of this Petition.

Respectfully submitted,

McNEES WALLACE & NURICK LLC

By 

Robert A. Weishaar, Jr.  
777 North Capitol Street, NE  
Suite 401  
Washington, DC 20002  
Telephone: (202) 898-5700  
Facsimile: (717) 260-1765  
Email: rweishaa@mwn.com

Adeolu A. Bakare  
Teresa K. Schmittberger  
100 Pine Street  
P.O. Box 1166  
Harrisburg, PA 17108-1166  
Telephone: (717) 232-8000  
Facsimile: (717) 260-1688  
Email: abakare@mwn.com  
Email: tschmittberger@mwn.com

Counsel to Sunoco Pipeline L.P.

Dated: March 21, 2014

Exhibit A

List of Pump Stations and Locations

<b>Station Name</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>Delmont</b>	Salem	Westmoreland
<b>Blairsville</b>	Burrell	Indiana
<b>Cramer</b>	East Wheatfield	Indiana
<b>Ebensburg</b>	Cambria	Cambria
<b>Hollidaysburg</b>	Allegheny	Blair
<b>Marklesburg</b>	Penn	Huntingdon
<b>Mt. Union</b>	Shirley	Huntingdon
<b>Doylesburg</b>	Toboyne	Perry
<b>Plainfield</b>	Lower Frankford	Cumberland
<b>Mechanicsburg</b>	Hampden	Cumberland
<b>Middletown</b>	Londonderry	Dauphin
<b>Cornwall</b>	West Cornwall	Lebanon
<b>Blainsport</b>	West Cocalico	Lancaster
<b>Montello</b>	Spring	Berks
<b>Beckersville</b>	Brecknock	Berks
<b>Eagle</b>	Upper Uwchlan	Chester
<b>Boot</b>	West Goshen	Chester
<b>Twin Oaks</b>	Upper Chichester	Delaware

Exhibit B

List of Valve Control Stations and Locations

<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Township</b>	<b>County</b>
Houston - Mark West	Chartiers	Washington
Houston - Williams	Chartiers	Washington
West Pike St.	Chartiers	Washington
Ross Rd	North Strabane	Washington
Monongahela River West	Union	Washington
Youghiogheny River South	Rostraver	Westmoreland
Old Harmony Rd	Hempfield	Westmoreland
Old Chestnut Ln	Penn	Westmoreland
West Loyalhanna Dam	Loyalhanna	Westmoreland
W Conemaugh River	Derry	Westmoreland
Juniata River West	Frankstown	Blair
Raystown Lake West	Penn	Huntingdon
Conodoquist River West	N. Middleton	Cumberland
Old York Rd	Fairview	York
Middletown Jct EFRD	L. Swatara	Dauphin
Montello EFRD	Spring	Berks
Walnut Bank	Wallace	Chester

# Exhibit C

Sunoco Logistics, L.P.  
72.5 MBPD 67.33 Ethane/Propane Mix Energy Profile

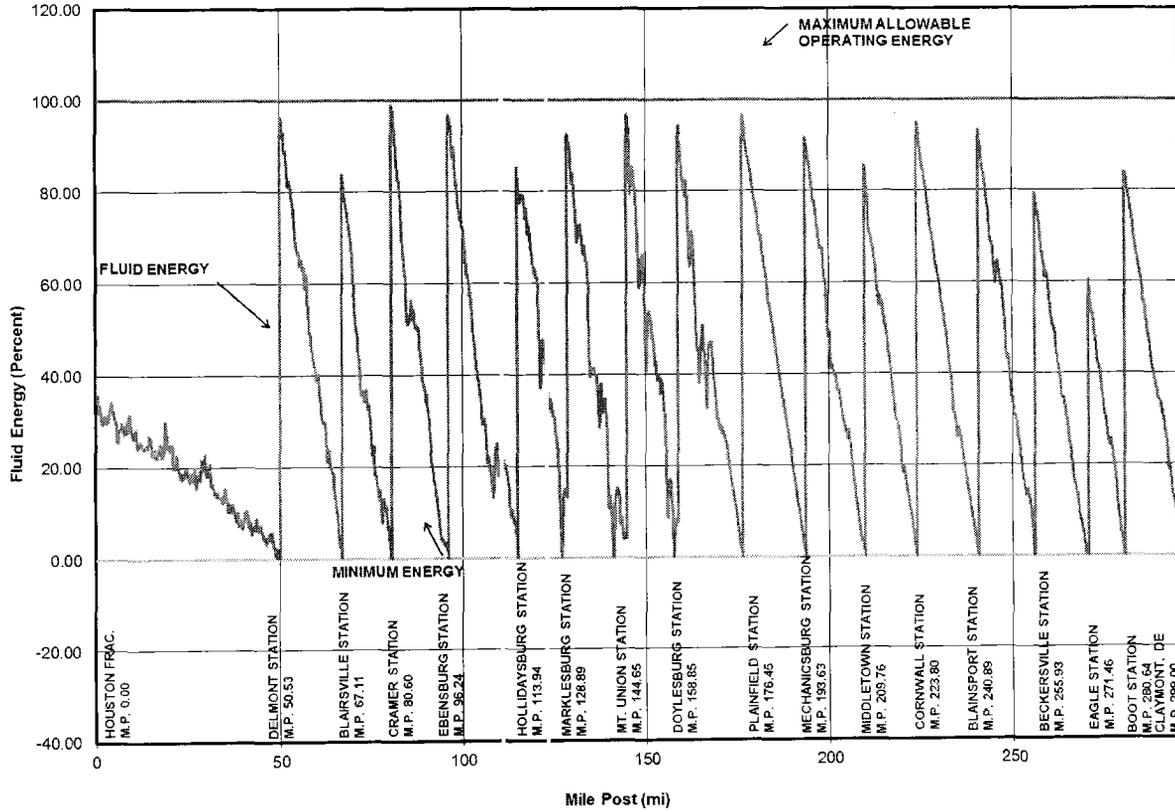
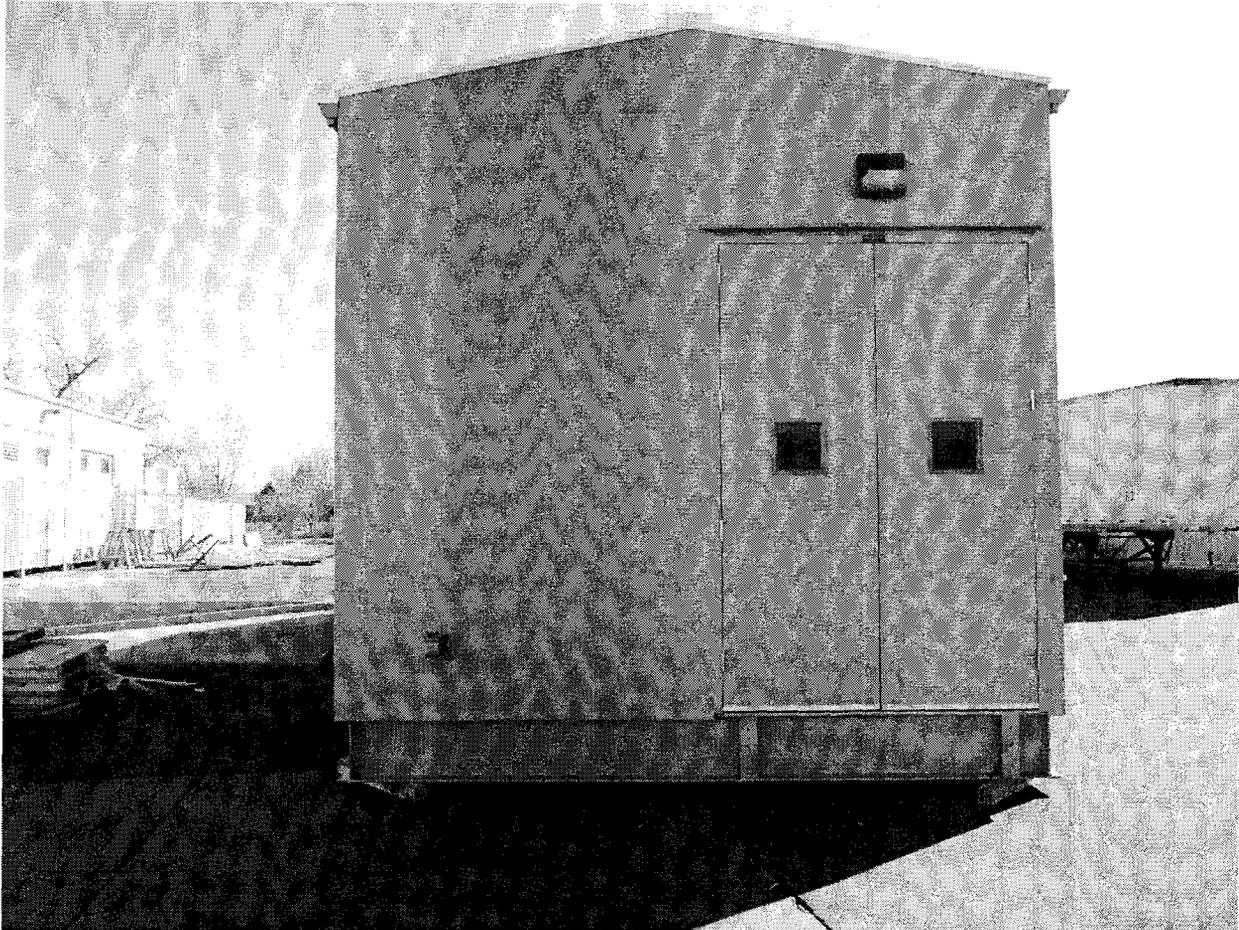


Exhibit D

Housing for the Pump Stations and Control Valve Stations



**VERIFICATION**

Matthew Gordon deposes and says that he is employed by Sunoco Partners LLC; that he is duly authorized to and does make this Verification on behalf of Sunoco Pipeline L.P.; that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition are true and correct to the best of his knowledge, information and belief; and that this verification is made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

3-18-2014  
Date

*Matthew Gordon*  
Signature

*March 18th 2014*  
*George J. Thatcher*

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA**  
Notarial Seal  
George J. Thatcher, Notary Public  
Salem Twp., Westmoreland County  
My Commission Expires Jan. 4, 2018  
MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF NOTARIES