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CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE



Senate of Pennsylvania

June 6, 2014

Robert F. Powelson, Chairman
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, Pa. 17120

P-2014-2411941
P-2014-2411965
P-2014-2411966
P-2014-2411968

Dear Chairman Powelson, Vice Chairman Coleman, Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Cawley, Commissioner Witmer:

In light of Sunoco Pipeline L.P.'s recently amended petition, we accordingly write to repeat our opposition to Sunoco's request to exempt its Mariner-East pipeline project in Chester County from local zoning rules.

As you know, Sunoco is in the process of "repurposing" its Mariner East pipeline so that it can transport Marcellus Shale ethane and propane easterly to the Marcus Hook refinery in Claymont, Del. As formerly reported, its proposal requires the construction of 18 pumping stations in 18 different municipalities – from Westmoreland County in western Pennsylvania to Delaware County on Maryland's border. Two pumping stations are proposed for Chester County: one in Eagle in Upper Uwchlan and one on Boot Road in West Goshen.

As also previously reported, Sunoco's Mariner East pipeline project would also require the construction of 17 valve stations in 15 different municipalities – this time between Washington County in western Pennsylvania and Chester County in southeastern Pennsylvania. Sunoco's proposed valve station in Chester County would be in Wallace Township.

Sunoco's petition seeking exemption from local ordinances conveniently fails to mention the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's December 2013 ruling affirming local governments' right to regulate pipelines, affiliated pumping and valve stations, and all other oil and gas operations.

In affirming such rights and striking down Act 13's language imposing one uniform ordinance for all Pennsylvania, the Court correctly stated that "The impact on the quality, quantity, and well-being of our natural resources cannot reasonably be assessed on the basis of a statewide average. Protection of environmental values, in this respect, is a quintessential local issue that must be tailored to local conditions."

The Court is right. Per the Constitution of Pennsylvania, residents and municipalities throughout Chester County and Pennsylvania have both the right and the obligation to enact local ordinances protecting their natural resources and quality of life.

We are confident you and fellow Pennsylvania Public Utility Commissioners will consider this matter and the concerns expressed. At the very least, we urge you to hold a public hearing in Chester County before any decision is made.

Respectfully,



Andy Dinniman
State Senator – 19th District



John Rafferty Jr.
State Senator – 44th District

Cc: Dominic Pileggi, State Senator for the 9th District
West Whiteland Township Board of Supervisors
West Goshen Township Board of Supervisors
Uwchlan Township Board of Supervisors
Upper Uwchlan Township Board of Supervisors
Wallace Township Board of Supervisors