



# Senate Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee

Senator Robert M. Tomlinson, *Chairman*

Room 281 Main Capitol Building • Harrisburg, PA 17120-3006 • (717) 787-5072

Travis N. Gery, Esquire, *Committee Director and Counsel*

January 27, 2017

Chairman Gladys Brown  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street, Keystone Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: PUC Docket No. A-2016-2575829  
Application of Laurel Pipeline, L.P.

Dear Chairman Brown:

We are aware of the application referenced above in which Buckeye Partners requests approval to reverse the flow on a portion of its Laurel pipeline. We are concerned that this request, if granted, could result in adverse impacts upon the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and some of our citizens.

Currently the pipeline flow runs from East to West, from the Philadelphia area to the Pittsburgh area. The request seeks to reverse the flow from West to East on the portion of the pipeline that runs from the Pittsburgh area to the Altoona area. This pipeline is the only pipeline that feeds the Pittsburgh area from the East. Reversal of the flow would, therefore, make it impossible to move fuel from the Philadelphia area, home to several refineries, to the Pittsburgh area via pipeline. Such action could potentially result in additional congestion on our already busy highways and roadways, thus increasing wear and tear and causing additional strain on our infrastructure. It could also have a negative impact on consumers in the Pittsburgh petroleum market and threaten jobs in the Philadelphia region.

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Chairman Gladys Brown

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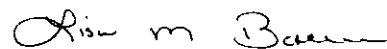
January 27, 2017

Because of the potential negative impacts that could result from the proposal, we request that the matter be examined thoroughly before action is taken. We suggest that the application be referred to an Administrative Law Judge for an evidentiary hearing so that all parties may have an opportunity to be heard and present evidence in support of their respective positions.

Sincerely,



Senator Robert Tomlinson  
State Senator, 6<sup>th</sup> District



Senator Lisa Boscola  
State Senator, 18 District

TNG/tmb

Cc: Vice-chairman Andrew Place  
Commissioner John Coleman  
Commissioner Robert Powelson  
Commissioner David Sweet  
Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta