

DAN TRUITT, MEMBER
156th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



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April 11, 2014

Robert F. Powelson, Chairman
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street
3rd Floor, Room N-304
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

Dear Chairman Powelson,

I am writing today to formally express my concerns regarding the Petition of Sunoco Pipeline, LP requesting an exemption from Section 619 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (53 P.S. §10619) "to allow for the construction of pump and valve control stations along a new pipeline that will transport liquid ethane and propane."

I'm concerned that Sunoco Pipeline, LP has a gigantic financial incentive to complete this project and has endless resources that would enable it to trample the rights of average citizens who find themselves standing between Sunoco and its goal. My constituents are at a huge disadvantage and I believe it is the role of your commission to help level this playing field.

I'm concerned that Sunoco Pipeline, LP has already used strong-arm tactics to gain access to conduct full (four-corner) surveys on private lands that merely border their current right-of-way, implying first that they held easements that did not actually exist, then claiming that they had the right of eminent domain, and finally taking at least two families from my district to court. These tactics suggest to me that they will aggressively use every tool at their disposal. It is my opinion that we should not give them any more.

I'm concerned that Sunoco Pipeline, LP continues (as recently as 4/9/2014) to represent itself as a public utility corporation as defined in Section 1103 of the Business Corporation Law even though a Pennsylvania court has ruled otherwise (*Sunoco Pipeline, LP vs. William C. Loper and Jodi Loper, 3/25/2014*). Any confusion regarding what rights they already have should be sorted out before they are granted any more rights.

I'm concerned that Sunoco Pipeline, LP has failed to adequately respond to the concerns of citizens in my district. While a public event has been scheduled for 4/22/2014, the deadline for filing formal protests, comments, and petitions with your commission is 4/21/2014. This is unfair to my constituents who only recently learned about this project and need time to do their own homework.

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SECRETARY'S BUREAU

When the existing pipelines were constructed, the area that is now the 156th Legislative District was mostly farm-land. Today, I believe that East Goshen and West Goshen townships are the most densely populated municipalities in the path of the Mariner East pipeline through Chester County and that it is therefore essential that Sunoco Pipeline, LP work hand-in-hand with officials from these townships to ensure that all aspects of the pipeline project will be designed and executed in a manner that will preserve the safety and welfare of their residents.

As such, I urge you to conduct full hearings on this matter and I urge you not to grant Sunoco Pipeline, LP any exemptions, certificates of public convenience, or other statuses that will expand its rights to bypass local zoning requirements or exercise the power of eminent domain.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Truitt".

Dan Truitt, PE
PA State Representative,
156th Legislative District

Cc: **John F. Coleman Jr., Vice Chairman**
Gladys M. Brown, Commissioner
Pamela A. Witmer, Commissioner
James H. Cawley, Commissioner
Senator Dominic Pileggi, 9th Senate District
Casey LaLonde, West Goshen Township Manager
Rick Smith, East Goshen Township Manager



House of Representatives

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