8TH DISTRICT

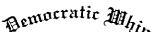
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Senate of Pennsylvania

February 1, 2017

STATE GOVERNMENT. MINORITY CHAIR COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION ETHICS & OFFICIAL CONDUCT LAW & JUSTICE POLICY RULES & EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS VETERANS AFFAIRS & EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

COMMITTEES

LEGISLATIVE DATA PROCESSING COMMITTEE

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. FEB - 1 2017

RECEIVED

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION SECRETARY'S BUREAU

Dear Chairman Brown:

I'm writing today about the proposal by Buckeye Partners to reverse the flow on their Laurel pipeline between Altoona and the greater Pittsburgh area. I am concerned that this change will have impacts that will adversely affect the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. From increases in fuel prices in western PA to damage to the refineries in southeast PA, this proposal to reverse flow may appear to have minimal impact but is clearly of great consequence.

This reversal would severely restrict the ability of the southeastern PA refineries to distribute their refined products to the west. For a refinery, restricted distribution options can have devastating economic effects. These refineries employ well over 1000 people and support a massive number of indirect jobs. The Commonwealth of PA made large investments over the past few years to ensure these employers stay in business. It would be troubling to allow a pipeline reversal that would threaten all of that hard work and investment.

The Buckeye proposal currently pending before the PUC must be examined very seriously. We request that the matter be referred to an administrative law judge for a full hearing so that all parties may discuss in detail the wide-ranging concerns. It is imperative that a change of this magnitude be given the due diligence it deserves.

Sincerely,

Anthony H. Williams State Senator – 8th District