



*Business@Work. Partners in Progress.*

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

April 4, 2022

Dear Ms. Chiavetta,

On behalf of the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce, I write to express our strong opposition to **Docket No. L-2019-3010267**, a regulation being considered by the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission. This regulation would impose new burdens on energy transportation infrastructure, directly impacting businesses, workers, and residents of our county. Rather than imposing regulations harming our business environment, the PUC should focus on reforms that keep our businesses able to compete and succeed.

This year, the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce is celebrating its 50th year of service to Beaver County businesses. For half a century, our chamber has been a fierce advocate for promoting policies that make Beaver County a better place to start or grow a business. Our mission has always been centered on encouraging economic growth, fostering investment, and aiding development in this region of western Pennsylvania. Job creators, both large and small, play a vital role in the future we are building here.

Beaver County is a major hub for energy development and related infrastructure, including several productive natural gas wells and hundreds of miles of pipelines, not to mention a cracker plant that is about to begin operation after years of construction. The jobs and investment brought by the energy revolution of the past 15 years have been a major driver of our community's growth. Given its importance to our local economy, we were proud to join the Pennsylvania Energy Infrastructure Alliance, a statewide coalition that supports private investment in pipeline and other energy infrastructure developments. The aligned interests of this coalition and our Chamber demonstrate our commitment to protecting the family-sustaining wages provided by pipeline- and energy-related jobs.

That is why our Chamber opposes to the PUC's proposed regulation, which could make it more difficult to transport oil and natural gas byproducts by pipeline. Pipelines keep our businesses, workers, and residents connected and growing, and it would be misguided to

threaten our future prosperity with heavy-handed rules. It is crucial that the PUC avoid new, unnecessary regulations that could lead to energy price inflation and fewer jobs, while threatening the reliability of energy transportation.

Unfortunately, as written, these regulations would do just that. The regulations amount to a multi-billion-dollar regulatory burden for some pipeline operators in Pennsylvania. Like other taxes and government-imposed costs, the impact of the regulation will be shared between producers and consumers, resulting in higher fuel costs for customers or disrupting pipeline service, reducing consumers' access to fuel and natural gas liquids like propane and butane. Inflation is already negatively impacting our businesses. Our businesses and consumers in our community can ill afford more government-caused burdens on our wallets.

Instead of punitive measures aimed at making pipelines uncompetitive, it is important to note the strong safety standards that are already in effect. As you know, pipelines are the safest, most environmentally friendly way to transport oil and natural gas, and the products made from them.

The Beaver County Chamber of Commerce asks you to reconsider adopting the new rulemaking in **Docket No. L-2019-3010267**. Please carefully weigh the costs and benefits of the rule, which we believe will ultimately show these new regulations are not in the best interests of businesses, consumers, or residents of our county or commonwealth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Helen Kissick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Helen Kissick  
President & Executive Director  
Beaver County Chamber of Commerce