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Senate of Pennsylvania

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May 6, 2022

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Attn: Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta
400 North St,
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Proposed Rulemaking for Hazardous Liquid Safety Standards, Docket No. L-2019-3010267

Secretary Chiavetta,

I am writing to express my support of the Public Utility Commission's efforts in the above rulemaking for hazardous liquid safety standards. This is certainly a step in the right direction for greater pipeline safety throughout the Commonwealth.

My district includes parts of Chester County that have been impacted by the route of the Mariner East 2 pipeline. I have heard consistently from county officials and constituents about their concerns over the location and safety of the pipeline. Therefore, I echo the statements made by my colleague, Senator Comitta, about the need for greater public awareness and communication when it comes to the construction, operation and maintenance of these pipelines and requiring pipeline operators hold at least one meeting annually with each county in which a pipeline is located. County and local government officials continually need to be apprised of this vital information to continue to protect the safety and inform the greater public.

I also commend the Commission's requirement that no pipeline may be located under private dwellings, industrial buildings, or places of public assembly but agree with my colleague, Representative Friel Otten, that greater consideration should still be taken on the routes and siting of pipelines, particularly in high consequence areas.

Further, I ask that the Commission give consideration to the collective comments provided by the advocates; Clean Air Council, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Del-Chesco United for Pipeline Safety, Mountain Watershed Association, Pipeline Safety Coalition, Penn Future, Environmental Integrity Project, and the Food & Water Watch. Their collective action and years of experience allow for a wealth of knowledge on the issue of hazardous liquid safety.

Finally, I again want to praise the work of the Commission in bringing forward these important regulations but ask that it consider further the comments of my colleagues and advocates.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Kearney".

Tim Kearney
26th Senatorial District