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Senate of Pennsylvania

March 5, 2026

The Honorable Stephen M. DeFrank, Chairman
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
400 North Street, Keystone Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Proposed extension of bi-directional service on the Laurel Pipeline

PUC Docket No. C-2025-3053018

*Monroe Energy, LLC, Lucknow-Highspire Terminals, LLC, Sheetz, Inc. and PBF Holding Company
LLC v. Laurel Pipeline Company, LLC*

Chairman DeFrank,

Let this letter signify my concern for the residents, consumers and businesses of the 18th Senatorial District and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding the matter involving Monroe Energy, et al. v. Laurel Pipeline Company, LLC. The Initial Decision issued by a PUC Administrative Law Judge on January 14, 2026 raises serious concerns about the potential impact on fuel supply reliability for Pennsylvanians. Therefore, I respectfully submit that the Commission reject the ALJ decision in its entirety or, if possible, approve a plan agreed upon by both sides.

The Laurel Pipeline is the last remaining large-volume pipeline capable of transporting petroleum products from Eastern Pennsylvania to markets in Central and Western Pennsylvania. Currently, Buckeye Partners, through its affiliate Laurel Pipeline (collectively, "Laurel-Buckeye"), offers mostly East to West shipments, with bi-directional service provided only between Pittsburgh and Altoona. Stakeholders have indicated that the existing 110 miles of bi-directional service has already created inconsistent service and logistical challenges. Expanding those operations by another 147 miles could worsen those issues for shippers and consumers across the Commonwealth. For that reason, the Commission should carefully review Laurel-Buckeye's proposal before allowing such a significant operational change.

The ALJ decision recommends granting the extension prematurely and without sufficient safeguards. Changing the historic operations of such an important public utility asset warrants careful review by the

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Commission to ensure the change does not create new service problems. Shippers have raised concerns that:

- A longer and more complicated bi-directional system using new, unproven operations could lead to deterioration of service across the pipeline.
- Fuel transit times could become more variable, leading to delayed shipments, supply disruptions and price impacts for consumers.
- Heating oil, produced largely by East Coast refineries and still used by many Pennsylvania households, could become less available if pipeline flows are driven primarily by out-of-state market demand rather than in-state supply needs.
- Diesel fuel, which powers Pennsylvania's trucking, agriculture and supply chains, also moves through this same fuel distribution network. Disruptions to pipeline service could therefore have ripple effects across the Commonwealth's economy and consumer prices.
- Thousands of Pennsylvania jobs within and outside of the petroleum industry could be at risk if shippers, refiners and retailers who rely on the pipeline are forced to reduce operations due to unreliable service.

In conclusion, the ALJ decision, if upheld, could significantly alter how the Laurel Pipeline has historically served Pennsylvania markets since the 1950s. Given the importance of this infrastructure to the reliable supply of fuels used by Pennsylvania families and businesses, the Commission should require a full application review process before allowing such a major operational change. This approach would allow all parties to fully examine the proposal rather than leaving refiners, shippers and consumers to address problems only after they occur.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Boscola". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa M. Boscola
18th Senatorial District

CC: Vice-Chairman, Kimberly M. Barrow
Commissioner Kathryn L. Zerfuss
Commissioner John F. Coleman, Jr.
Commissioner Ralph V. Yanora
Secretary Mathew L. Homsher