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May 8, 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, et al. v. Laurel Pipeline Company, LLC*

Dear Chairman DeFrank:

I am writing about a significant consumer affordability issue that is of immense importance to both the constituents of my Senatorial District and all of Pennsylvania: access to reliable and competitively priced liquid fuel supplies, including gasoline, diesel, and home heating oil. Given the recent international conflict in the Middle East, this issue becomes even more important. Because of the ongoing military operation, fuel prices in Pennsylvania have steadily increased as the impacts from the ongoing affordability crisis are also felt among our residents.

Since 2019, the Laurel Pipe Line Company, L.P. (“Laurel”) has provided bi-directional service over the portion of the Laurel pipeline system located between Altoona and Pittsburgh. These bi-directional operations have allowed for the repurposing of an underutilized asset to increase supply optionality on the system. This optionality has meant that shippers and parts of our commonwealth have benefited from increased supplies of competitively priced gasoline, diesel, and heating oil from both Midwest as well as East Coast refineries. Laurel now seeks to implement an extension of bi-directional service—which would result in bi-directional operations between Pittsburgh and Reading. This would extend bi-directional benefits to even more of the shipping community and even more Pennsylvanians.

Importantly, the eastern and central regions of our state are currently supplied by three sources: the Colonial pipeline (which moves product from refineries along the Gulf Coast), several local refineries (using primarily foreign crude) and foreign gasoline imports. Disruption to any one of these sources (*e.g.* from a future cyberattack on infrastructure) will result—**and indeed has already resulted**—in dramatic price increases in our populous parts of Pennsylvania. Providing additional sources from other refineries, which have substantially expanded their output in the past decade using North American-sourced crude, reduces this risk. Moreover, Laurel is not proposing a full reversal. If current suppliers can continue to supply competitively priced products to Pennsylvania consumers, they will be able to do so. In short, bi-directional operations are a win for the pipeline, a win for shippers, and a win for Pennsylvania.

Bi-directional operations over Laurel's underutilized pipeline system have benefited, and will continue to benefit, Pennsylvania, with such benefits including enhanced access to reliable and competitively priced liquid fuel supplies, including gasoline, diesel and home heating oil. Thank you for your consideration of my support for this service extension into the greater Eastern Pennsylvania region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Miller", with a stylized flourish at the end.

State Senator Nick Miller
Chair, Senate Democratic Policy Committee
14th Senate District