# BEFORE THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Petition of Sunoco Pipeline L.P. for a	:	
Finding That the Situation of Structures to	:	Docket Nos. P-2014-2411941,
Shelter Pump Stations and Valve Control	:	2411942, 2411943, 2411944,
Stations is Reasonably Necessary for the	:	2411945, 2411946, 2411948,
Convenience and Welfare of the Public	:	2411950, 2411951, 2411952,
		2411953, 2411954, 2411956,
		2411957, 2411958, 2411960,
		2411961, 2411963, 2411964,
		2411965, 2411966, 2411967,
		2411968, 2411971, 2411972,
		2411974, 2411975, 2411976,
		2411977, 2411979, 2411980.

# Petition to Intervene of the Clean Air Council

Through counsel, the Clean Air Council ("Council" or "Petitioner"), hereby Petition to Intervene in Response to Sunoco Pipeline L.P.'s ("Sunoco") Petition for a "Finding That the Situation of Structures to Shelter Pump Stations and Valve Control Stations is Reasonably Necessary for the Convenience and Welfare of the Public" ("Petition"). The Council requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") grant the Council Status as an Intevenor pursuant to 52 Pa. Code §§5.73-75. The Council provides the following in support of its Petition to Intervene:

1. The name and address for counsel for Petitioner is:

Joseph O. Minott PA Attorney # 36463 Clean Air Council 135 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel: 215-567-4004 Fax: 215-567-5791 joe\_minott@cleanair.org Augusta C. Wilson PA Attorney # 316969 Clean Air Council 135 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel: 215-567-4004 x106 Fax: 215-567-5791 awilson@cleanair.org

- 2. In support of its Petition, the Council states that it is a non-profit, membership organization based in Philadelphia which has fought for more than 40 years to improve air quality across Pennsylvania. The Council's principal place of business is located on 135 South 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300, in Philadelphia, PA, 19103, tel. (215) 567-4004. The Council has more than 8,000 members throughout the Commonwealth, including in the areas where portions of the Project's construction activity will take place, who support its mission to protect everyone's right to breathe clean air. CAC engages in outreach work and litigation to achieve its goal to protect everyone's right to breathe clean air.
- 3. Sunoco is seeking to develop a pipeline project referred to as the Mariner East Pipeline ("Project"). If constructed, the Project would transport Natural Gas Liquids from Houston, Pennsylvania to Marcus Hook, Pennsylvania and Clayton, Delaware. In order to transport these liquids from Marcellus Shale region, Sunoco seeks to build 18 pump stations and 17 valve control stations, as well as structures to shelter them.
- 4. The proposed construction would require an exemption in each of 31 municipalities across Pennsylvania under section 619 of the Municipal Planning Code. Section 619 allows an exemption for "any existing or proposed building, or extension thereof, used or to be used by a public utility corporation, if, upon petition of the corporation, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission shall, after a public hearing, decide that the

present or proposed situation of the building in question is reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public." 53 P.S. § 10619.

- 5. Intervention in Commission proceedings is permitted where a person has an interest in the matter "which may be directly affected and which is not adequately represented by the participants, and as to which the petitioner may be bound by the action or proceeding," or "another interest of such nature that participation of the petitioner may be in the public interest." 52 Pa. Code § 5.72(a)(2), (3).
- 6. The Council, on behalf of its more than 8,000 members and the public interest, has a direct interest in the outcome of Sunoco's Petition. A substantial amount of the associated construction and operational impacts resulting from the pump stations and valve control stations Sunoco seeks exemptions for would be located in areas where the Council has members.
- 7. The Council is concerned that if these facilities are exempted from local zoning ordinances, the construction and operation of these facilities will result in significant negative impacts on air quality, water quality, wildlife, and human health in the areas where the facilities are located.
- Sunoco does not meet the definition of a public utility corporation and therefore does not quality for exemption under § 619 of the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code (53 P.S. § 10619). Further, even if Sunoco does qualify as a public utility corporation, the Project's proposed situation of structures is not reasonably necessary for the convenience or welfare of the public.
- Finally, Article I Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution prohibits the granting of Sunoco's Petition. A grant of exemptions from local zoning ordinances for the

construction of these facilities would likely contradict the recent holding of the Supreme

Court of Pennsylvania in Robinson Township, et al. v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, et

al., 83 A.3d 901 (Pa. Dec. 19, 2013). The plurality opinion in that case explicitly based

its decision in part on the Environmental Rights Amendment of Art. I, § 27, which states:

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public and natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall preserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

Id. at 949-950 (citing Pa. Const. Art. I, § 27).

- The Council's interests cannot be adequately represented by any other party to this proceeding.
- 11. Wherefore, the Council respectfully requests that the Pennsylvania Public Utility

Commission:

- a. Grants this Petition to Intervene
- b. Make any other such orders as are just and appropriate.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Augusta Wilson

Augusta Wilson, Esq.

### **VERIFICATION**

I, Augusta Wilson, hereby state that the facts set forth above in the Petition to Intervene are true and correct (or are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief), and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4909 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

/s/ Augusta Wilson

Augusta Wilson Staff Attorney Clean Air Council 135 S. 19<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19103 Tel: 215-567-4004 Fax: 215-567-5791

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Augusta Wilson, do hereby certify that a true and accurate copy of the foregoing

PETITION TO INTERVENE was served upon the following on April 18, 2014, pursuant to the

requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54(b)(3) (relating to service by a participant).

## Via Electronic Filing

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