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Office of the Majority Whip



Senate of Pennsylvania

February 1, 2017

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Honorable Gladys M. Brown, Chairman  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor North, Commonwealth Keystone Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Chairman *Gladys* Brown:

It is my understanding that there is a proposal before the PUC to reverse the flow of the Laurel Pipeline between Altoona and the greater Pittsburgh area. I write to express concern because this will have a substantial adverse impact on refineries in southeastern Pennsylvania – refineries that the Commonwealth devoted significant resources to save from closure.

While it is currently an option for the greater Pittsburgh area to purchase fuel from Ohio and Chicago based refineries, in addition to the southeastern Pennsylvania refineries, approving the reverse flow of the Laurel Pipeline will have a devastating effect on the Pennsylvania based refineries by cutting-off the ability to move product into that area. This proposal could put the continued operation of the Pennsylvania based refineries in jeopardy of closing which could lead to the elimination of over 1,000 family sustaining jobs in the Commonwealth.

With those concerns in mind, I request that the PUC conduct a full vetting of this proposal and refer the matter to an administrative law judge so that all parties may discuss how this proposal will potentially impact the Commonwealth and its refinery operations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

*John R. Gordner*  
JOHN R. GORDNER

- cc: Honorable Andrew G. Place, Vice-Chairman
- Honorable John F. Coleman
- Honorable Robert. F. Powelson
- Honorable David W. Sweet
- Honorable Robert Tomlinson

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