



PHILADELPHIA

delegation



PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES • COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SECRETARY'S BUREAU

February 1, 2017

**Maria P. Donatucci**  
Chair

P.O. Box 202185  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120-2185  
Phone: (717) 783-8634  
Fax: (717) 772-9888

Website:  
www.pahouse.com/PCD

**Jason Dawkins**  
Vice Chair

**Joanna McClinton**  
Secretary/Treasurer

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street, Keystone Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: PUC Docket No. A-2016-2575829  
Application of Laurel Pipeline, L.P.

Members:

- Kevin J. Boyle**
- Vanessa Lowery Brown**
- Donna Bullock**
- Morgan Cephus**
- Angel Cruz**
- Pamela A. DeLissio**
- Michael Driscoll**
- Isabella Fitzgerald**
- Jordan A. Harris**
- William F. Keller**
- Stephen Kinsey**
- Ed Neilson**
- Michael H. O'Brien**
- Chris Rabb**
- James R. Roebuck, Jr.**
- Brian Sims**
- Jared Solomon**
- W. Curtis Thomas**
- Rosita C. Youngblood**

Dear Chairman Brown:

We the undersigned members of the House Philadelphia County Delegation are writing today about the proposal by Buckeye Partners to reverse the flow on their Laurel pipeline between Altoona and the greater Pittsburgh area. I am concerned that this change will have impacts that will adversely affect the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. From increases in fuel prices in western PA to damage to the refineries in southeast PA, this proposal to reverse flow may appear to have minimal impact but is clearly of great consequence.

Currently, the greater Pittsburgh fuel market is supplied by multiple pipelines from Ohio and Chicago based refineries, but there is only one line that feeds Pittsburgh from the east – the Laurel pipeline. Reversing Laurel would make it impossible to move fuel to Pittsburgh via pipeline from the east. While currently, the Pittsburgh area fuel retailers are able to buy product from the Midwest or from the southeast PA refineries (and choose to do so depending upon which is cheapest), the pipeline reversal will eliminate this optionality and make it substantially more difficult for a competitive environment to exist.

Furthermore, this reversal would severely restrict the ability of the southeastern PA refineries to distribute their refined products to the west. For a refinery, restricted distribution options can have devastating economic effects. These refineries located in the southeast part of the state employ well over 1000 people and support a massive number of indirect jobs. The Commonwealth of PA made large investments over the past few years to ensure these employers stay in business. It would be troubling to allow a pipeline reversal that would threaten all of that hard work and investment.

The Buckeye proposal currently pending before the PUC must be examined very seriously. We request that the matter be referred to an administrative law judge for a

**Ryan McIlmoyle**  
Executive Director

Email:  
rncilmoyle@pahouse.net

full hearing so that all parties may discuss in detail the wide-ranging concerns. It is imperative that a change of this magnitude be given the due diligence it deserves.

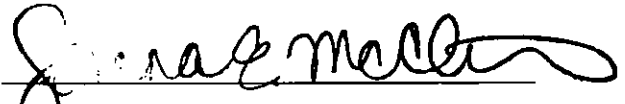
Sincerely,

CC: Vice-Chairman Andrew Place  
Commissioner John Coleman  
Commissioner Robert Powelson  
Commissioner David Sweet  
Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta



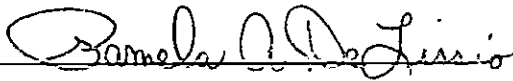
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Maria P. Donatucci, 185<sup>th</sup> Legislative District  
Chairwoman



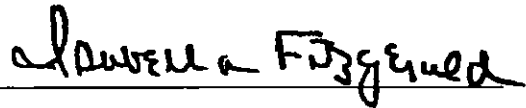
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Joanna McClinton, 191<sup>st</sup> Legislative District  
Secretary/Treasurer



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Pamela A. DeLissio, 194<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



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Isabella Fitzgerald, 203<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District



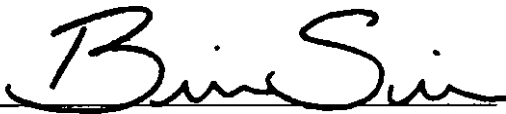
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Stephen Kinsey, 201<sup>st</sup> Legislative District



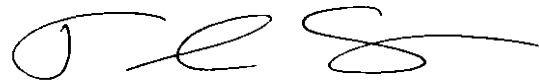
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Michael H. O'Brien, 175<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



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Brian K. Sims, 182<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



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Jared Solomon, 202<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



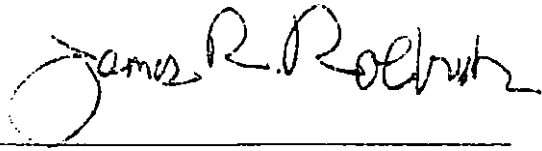
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Rosita C. Youngblood, 198<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

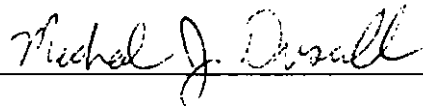


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Angel Cruz, 180<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



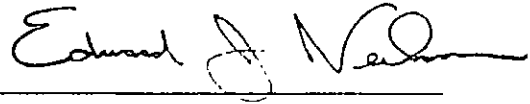
James R. Roebuck, Jr., 188<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



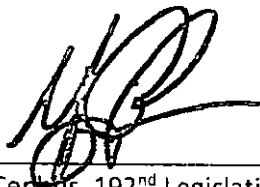
Michael Driscoll, 173<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District



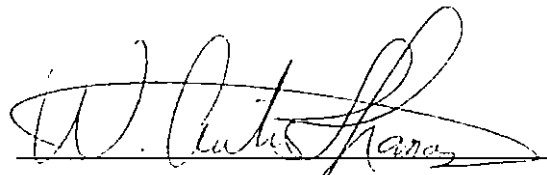
Jordan A. Harris, 186<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Ed Neilson, 174<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Morgan Cephus, 192<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District



W. Curtis Thomas, 181<sup>st</sup> Legislative District