

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

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Gladys M. Brown
Chairman
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
P.O. Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Dear Chairman Brown,

I write to urge you and the rest of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission to reject Buckeye Partners' proposal to reverse the direction of the Laurel Pipeline. I am concerned that reversal of the pipeline would harm PA consumers and jeopardize Pennsylvania refining jobs.

As you know, the Pittsburgh region is currently able to receive petroleum products from Philadelphia and other points to the East, as well as from the Midwest. This flexibility benefits Pittsburgh area consumers because fuel marketers there have the option of purchasing the most competitively priced product.

Since it began operation in 1957, the Laurel Pipeline has delivered fuel products from the East to Pittsburgh. Today, it is the only remaining pipeline that moves product from the Philadelphia-area refiners to the Pittsburgh market. The proposal from Texas-based Buckeye Partners to reverse the flow of Laurel would effectively eliminate Pittsburgh's ability to access fuel produced by the Philadelphia refiners.

While the proposed change obviously stands to benefit the owners of the Buckeye pipeline, as well as the refineries in the Midwest, these benefits are likely to come at the expense of Pennsylvanians. If the pipeline is reversed, Western Pennsylvania residents may experience higher gasoline prices and fuel shortages, and the refineries in Philadelphia may have to lay off additional workers.

I urge you to act in the best interest of the Commonwealth and reject the proposal.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3805

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RESORT FIRST CLASS

Robert P. Casey, Jr.

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Gladys M. Brown
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