CAROLYN T. COMITTA, MEMBER

25-A EAST WING P.O. BOX 202156 HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2156 PHONE: (717) 705-2075 FAX: (717) 780-4751

21 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE A WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380 PHONE: (610) 696-4990 FAX: (610) 738-2163

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House of Representatives

HARRISBURG

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PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION SECRETARY'S BUREAU

August 2, 2019

Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, Second Room Harrisburg, PA 17120

COMMITTEES

AGING & OLDER ADULT SERVICES SECRETARY APPROPRIATIONS ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY SECRETARY THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

DELEGATION

SOUTHEAST DELEGATION CHESTER COUNTY VICE-CHAIR

COMMISSION

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RE: Comments on Docket No. L-2019-3010267 Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Order

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

As State House Representative of the 156th Legislative District in Pennsylvania, I respond today to your request for comments on Docket No. L-2019-3010267. My district has many existing pipelines running through it, new ones under construction or undergoing repurposing, and yet more planned. I along with other elected officials, residents, school districts, senior homes, and emergency personnel have had ongoing safety concerns about this project. Townships in my district have also raised concerns and have been holding safety evaluation hearings. Many local citizens are fearful. And, there is much to be fearful about.

A number of my fellow legislators in both the House and Senate have introduced pieces of legislation that deal with the many loopholes and lapses of jurisdiction in the law. To address two critical areas, I have introduced two bills HB 1567 addressing eminent domain issues for public utilities pipelines and HB 1568 which calls for the establishment of an interagency Pipeline Safety and Communication Board. I will also be introducing legislation in the future dictating the number of pipelines permitted in a single right of way and how to deal with increased residential and business development along existing rights of way. In addition, I am also working on bills dealing with dust and particulate matter released in the pipeline construction process and with noise and vibration both of which have caused grave concerns.

I would encourage the PUC to include regulations dealing with all the topics mentioned in the advanced notice. Constituents and municipal and county officials have expressed concerns to me about, if not all, then most of these issues from pipeline conversion, particularly using old pipes, to geophysical testing, protection of public and private water wells and systems, to timely communication with local government officials and the public throughout the process.

Secretary Rosemary Chiavetta August 2, 2019 Page 2

We must ensure the safety of our citizens and of our environment. As the gas boom developed, the need for further regulatory oversight was not adequately anticipated. We have an opportunity to establish effective regulations and to get them right. It is also important to establish regulations that are specific to NGLs which have their own unique qualities and dangers. This is a responsibility that we must not take lightly. We owe it to ourselves, our fellow citizens, and to the generations to come.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Caroly T. Comitta

Representative Carolyn T. Comitta 156th Legislative District

CTC/jml

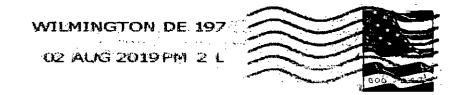


156

House of Representatives commonwealth of pennsylvania

HARRISBURG

CAROLYN T. COMITTA, MEMBER 21 WEST WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE A WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380



Ms. Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission Commonwealth Keystone Building 400 North Street, Second Room Harrisburg, PA 17120

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