

May 9, 2022

Secretary
Pennsylvania PUC
Keystone Building, 2nd Floor
400 North Street
Harrisburg PA 17120

Public Reply Comment: Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's Proposed Rulemaking for Hazardous Liquids Pipelines

Docket: L-2019-3010267

Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission:

I am a former educator and current resident in the state of Pennsylvania, living just outside of Philadelphia. As such, I am acutely aware that environmental issues in our communities are also economic issues and racial issues. You may also be aware that low-income families and people of color are most often the Pennsylvanians that are negatively impacted by coal, oil and gas industries. As a Pennsylvanian who believes ALL Pennsylvanians deserve safe and healthy environments, I am writing to express my strong support for the most stringent regulations for hazardous liquid pipelines that run through our state.

While I live in Montgomery County, I have two children, one of whom is studying Environmental Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh, and the other will begin studying at Millersville University near Lancaster, PA, in August. I am very concerned about their health and their wellbeing living in close proximity of the Mariner East pipeline project. I have read about the failures and problems with the Mariner East pipeline project and it is clear that stronger controls must be put in place to protect all community members throughout Pennsylvania.

As a volunteer with Food and Water Watch, I will reiterate the commonsense principles addressed in a previous comment:

- HVL pipelines only be placed in extremely low population density areas, and only after a thorough review of safety risks posed and mitigation measures possible.
- HVL pipelines only be allowed where a public good can unequivocally be demonstrated. If no public good exists and the pipeline is purely for private profit, the company should have to share some portion of profit with the affected community.
- The company building the pipeline must resource EMS that serves the blast zone with a feasible plan to both notify residents of a leak and to respond effectively to a leak. Technology, equipment, and funding to carry out this plan should also be provided in large part by the company.
- Residents in the blast zone must be thoroughly educated on the risks and on how to be notified of a concern. A phone notification system should exist.
- The pipeline emergency plan must take nearby people with disabilities into account.

- The pipeline construction should be reviewed and engineered for extra safety measures specific to HVLs.
- Construction cannot occur until environmental impact studies AND groundwater impact studies are completed, where results indicate little to no negative impact. These studies should establish the impacts not only of the active pipeline but also the effects of the construction itself.
- Leak detection & alert system required.
- Free water testing and remediation to all well owners in proximity to the pipeline.
- The recommendations of FWW, Penn Futures, Clear Air Council, the Local State Representatives, and other experts should be taken into account fully and seriously. They have a lot of expertise on what good regulation should entail.

I urge the PUC to enact and enforce the strongest possible regulations to protect Pennsylvanians, putting the public's safety ahead of the special interests and profits of the oil and gas industry.

Regards,

Kristine R. Burton