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August 20, 2020

The Honorable Thomas Wolf
Governor of Pennsylvania
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Mariner East Pipeline Construction

Dear Governor Wolf:

Chester County is once again in the news because of Energy Transfer's Mariner East pipeline project – this time from an inadvertent return of drilling mud into Marsh Creek Lake in Upper Uwchlan Township. West Whiteland Township sympathizes with our neighbors in Upper Uwchlan as we are all too familiar with the anguish that this massive and protracted construction project is causing.

In our community alone, pipeline construction impacted an aquifer, resulting in well water turbulence for numerous homeowners, new above ground seeps and the discharge of large amounts of ground water; created sink holes on three different occasions in the back yards of homes where existing pipelines carrying highly volatile liquids were already in operation; and caused sink holes to form by Lincoln Highway and the Chester Valley Trail, a matter that is still under investigation. Incidents like these create fear about the short-term and long-term effects on safety and the environment.

High profile incidents are not the only source of anguish. Since 2017, anyone who lives along the Mariner East route has endured severe disturbance from construction. Many of our residents are among those who have had to put up with noise from drilling that can be heard and felt inside their homes; even louder and more percussive hammering from the installation of casing underground that can be felt a half mile or more away; the smell, taste and grit of diesel exhaust that gets inside nearby buildings; and for hours on end, day after day, the piercing sound of backup alarms from construction vehicles. Living with that kind of noise and air pollution off and on for three years is enough to leave anyone at their wit's end.

Add to that the heightened public awareness that Energy Transfer is constructing these new highly volatile liquid pipelines in close proximity to many homes, schools, businesses and

gathering places. People are understandably angry and afraid. These pipelines never should have been built here.

In Pennsylvania, municipalities do not have regulatory authority over siting, construction or operations of natural gas or natural gas liquids pipelines; that authority sits with the state. However, since Energy Transfer started Mariner East construction, West Whiteland officials have learned to our dismay that, while the state may have the legal authority, there are no state regulations to be enforced beyond the minimum federal standards. As a result, our community is unprotected.

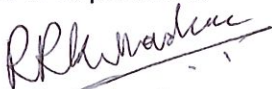
We appeal to you to exercise any power that you have – in regards to permitting, additional reviews, inspections, testing, or any other measures – to protect our community from the risks caused by construction of pipelines in high density areas and the risk caused by operating highly volatile liquid pipelines under high pressure near anyone.

We also strongly urge you to make the call to action for pipeline safety in your current budget a priority. Even though climate change is becoming an ever more obvious threat, the natural gas industry is going to remain in Pennsylvania for the foreseeable future. We read with keen interest your call for new laws and regulations for intrastate pipelines carrying natural gas or natural gas liquids. We also appreciate your call for the current PUC rulemaking process on pipeline safety regulations to move forward expeditiously. We ask that you keep the pressure on the legislature and the PUC to enact effective pipeline laws and regulations.

Especially in this year of a pandemic, we are aware of the demands on your time and attention. However, these pipelines are a threat now. Please do everything you can to protect our community – and communities across Pennsylvania – from pipeline construction and unsafe operations and to improve pipeline safety going forward.

Sincerely,

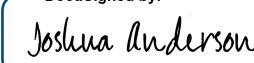
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DocuSigned by:

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Joshua Anderson
Supervisor

cc: State Senator Andrew Dinniman
State Representative Kristine Howard