



Associated Petroleum Industries of Pennsylvania

A Division of the American Petroleum Institute

Stephanie C. Wissman
Executive Director

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Good evening.

My name is Stephanie Catarino Wissman and I am the executive director of API-Pennsylvania. API-PA is a division of the American Petroleum Institute, which represents all segments of America's oil and natural gas industry. Its more than 650 members produce, process, and distribute most of the nation's energy. The industry also supports 9.8 million U.S. jobs and 8 percent of the U.S. economy.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration recently announced that fossil fuels have supplied at least 80 percent of the world's energy since the 1900's and will continue to do so for decades to come. In particular, the tremendous supply of clean natural gas and associated natural gas liquids (NGLs) is driving economic and job growth in the industrial sector. Knowing that, it's important that we continue to support the development of pipeline infrastructure, which delivers affordable energy and vital products to people across the country and here in Pennsylvania.

The Atlantic Sunrise project is one of these important pipeline projects. Once complete, the Atlantic Sunrise expansion will help alleviate infrastructure bottlenecks in Pennsylvania, connecting abundant Marcellus gas supplies with markets in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern U.S. The nearly \$3 billion expansion of the existing Transco natural gas pipeline is designed to increase deliveries by 1.7 billion cubic feet per day (enough to provide service to seven million homes). Williams Partners' net investment in the Atlantic Sunrise project is expected to be approximately \$1.9 billion.

High industry standards are a critical part of the API mission. For more than 90 years we have taken our industry's collective wisdom on everything from drill bits to environmental protection to embrace proven, sound engineering and operating practices and safe, interchangeable equipment and materials. We believe safety and environmental protection go hand in hand with industry operations.

Pipeline companies take active steps to ensure that health, safety, security, and environmental concerns are addressed throughout the planning, construction, and operational phases of pipeline operations. Pipeline projects are designed to minimize the impact to the environment. During the construction phase care is taken to limit the impacts to water and soil, which are generally temporary to begin with. For example, directional drilling is used for some water crossings to avoid damming or otherwise

disturbing bodies of water. Topsoil, in agricultural areas, is removed and stockpiled separately so that it can be returned after installation. After construction, the right-of-way is returned to near as possible its original condition.

After construction, pipeline companies work diligently to prevent releases by constantly evaluating, inspecting and maintaining pipelines in a program called integrity management that is governed by federal regulations and industry best practices. Pipeline companies together fund millions of dollars of research into new inspection technologies and spend billions on safety each year.

Once operational, the new pipeline will be maintained and operated according to procedures outlined in Williams' Transco's Pipeline Integrity Management Program. These procedures, many of which exceed minimum federal industry regulations, includes monitoring of the pipeline 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

In 2015, Pennsylvania State University researchers forecast the Atlantic Sunrise project to directly and indirectly support approximately 8,000 jobs in the 10 Pennsylvania counties during the project's construction phase, resulting in an estimated \$1.6 billion economic impact in the project area.

The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline will provide significant benefits to the state and we recommend that the Pennsylvania DEP grant them their final permits to start construction without delay.

