# **DEP MEETING - AFFECTED LANDOWNER**

MY NAME IS LYNDA LIKE AND I AM FROM CONESTOGA. THIS PROJECT ON ITS PRESENT ROUTE WILL AFFECT 30 MORE STREAMS AND WETLANDS COMBINED. OVER 1000 VOICES IN CONESTOGA SUBMITTED TO FERC BY REP. BRENT MILLER WERE SILENCED AND IGNORED WHEN ASKED TO MOVE THIS PROJECT BACK TO THE ORIGINAL ELECTRICAL RIGHT OF WAY. LET'S GO BEYOND THAT AND STATE THIS PROJECT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN FORCED THROUGH LANCASTER COUNTY. SOUTHERN END OF THE COUNTY WHERE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURE COME TOGETHER TO FORM ONE OF THE FEW PRISTINE PLACES UNTOUCHED BY CORPORATIONS, IS VISITED BY MANY IN AND OUT OF STATE. ONE WILLIAMS WORKER WAS HEARD TO SAY HE DIDN'T KNOW PLACES LIKE THIS STILL EXISTED-IT'S AMAZING HERE-TOO BAD- YOU WON'T RECOGNIZE THE PLACE IN 10 YEARS. WHAT A RESOUNDING ENDORSEMENT FOR THE DRASTIC CHANGE COMING TO LANCASTER COUNTY.

HORIZONTAL DRILLING WILL BE DONE HERE. RECENTLY SUNOCO AND ROVER PIPELINES HAD SPILLS OF DRILLING FLUID CONTAINING BENTONITE CLAY AND WATER WITH DIESEL FUEL FOUND ALSO IN THE MIX. BOTH OF THESE SPILLS TOTALLED OVER 2 MILLION 575 GALLONS RELEASED INTO THE DELCO CREEK AND THE TUSCARAWAS RIVER. ONE DEP AGENT STATED HE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE ALL THE SPILLAGE WENT WHEN ASKED WHERE THE REST OF THE 20,000 GAL OF FLUID WENT.

YOU AS A STATE AGENCY HERE IN PA SHOULD HAVE EXECUTED YOUR POWERS AS A CONCERNED ADVOCATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES HERE. INSTEAD OF THE PAPER PUSHING FROM ONE DESK TO THE OTHER AND ONTO FERC, YOUR AGENCY SHOULD HAVE SHOUTED LOUDLY OVER ALL OTHER VOICES OF WHAT COULD AND MAY HAPPEN HERE IN THIS COUNTY. AS AN OVERSEER OF OUR STATE, I FEEL YOU HAVE LET US DOWN. YOU HAVE NO MORE POWER HERE THAT WE, THE CITIZENS. YOU CAN'T STOP ANY PROJECT THROUGH ANY PART OF THIS STATE, SO I HAVE TO WONDER WHY IN THE WORLD YOU ARE AN AGENCY UNDER THIS NAME OF DEP. THE TENTACLES OF POWER REACH NOT ONLY IN THE STATES BUT DEEP INTO THE FEDERAL GOVT ITSELF. THESE TYRANTS HAVE NEVER BEEN REINED IN. IT IS NEITHER CLOSELY MONITORED OR MADE ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS ACTIONS. IT IS SO UNDER REGULATED THAT IT APPEARS TO ANSWER TO NO ONE. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO REPORT ANY LEAKS NOR OF ANY DAMAGES UNDER 50,000 DOLLARS. WHEN WELLS ARE CONTAMINATED, WHO IS GOING TO TELL THE PROPERTY OWNERS. NO ONE!! THEY DON'T HAVE TO REPORT IT. WHEN AN ACCIDENT HAPPENS, WE HERE WILL BE COLLATERAL DAMAGE AND OUR VOICES WILL 'FINALLY BE SILENCED.'

I CAN ONLY ASSUME YOU ARE HERE NOW TO GIVE US, THE CITIZENS, SOME 'GUIDELINES'.

WELL WE DON'T NEED GUIDELINES. WHAT WE NEED IS LEADERSHIP AND A VOICE WHO IS NOT AFRAID TO BE HEARD!!!



124 174 5

June 1, 2017

#### FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

STATEMENT

Docket No. CP15-93-000

# Joint Statement of Acting Chairman Cheryl A. LaFleur and Commissioner Colette D. Honorable on Tuscarawas River Horizontal Directional Drill - Drilling Fluid Composition

"We are issuing this joint statement to address recent developments related to the construction of the Rover Pipeline Project, and to express our support for recent actions taken by Commission staff.

"On April 15, 2017, Rover Pipeline LLC (Rover) informed Commission staff in the Office of Energy Projects (OEP) that there was an inadvertent release of drilling mud while completing the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) of the Tuscarawas River. As a result, approximately two million gallons of bentonite-based drilling fluid was spilled into a state-designated wetland. On May 10, 2017, Commission staff issued a letter that ordered Rover to cease new horizontal drilling. The letter also directed Rover to obtain a third-party consultant who will work under the direction of Commission staff to evaluate this incident and determine its cause. This consultant will also develop a plan detailing measures that Rover must undertake to prevent events of this type from occurring again.

"Today, Commission staff issued a letter addressing the recent disclosure by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) to the Commission of test results indicating the presence of diesel fuel in samples of the drilling mud associated with the Rover's Tuscarawas River HDD. In its certificate application, Rover represented to the Commission that its drilling fluid would be composed of a "slurry made of nontoxic/non-hazardous bentonite clay and water." The Commission accepted this commitment in its approval of Rover's certificate. Commission staff informed Rover in writing that staff would be in close coordination with the Ohio EPA to identify and direct all necessary remediation to ensure that Rover minimizes, to the greatest extent possible, the environmental harm caused by the introduction of diesel fuel into the drilling mud. The letter also notes that OEP staff have referred this matter to the Commission's Office of Enforcement (OE) for further investigation.

"We are troubled by the Tuscarawas River HDD spill and the indications that diesel fuel is present in the drilling mud utilized for the Tuscarawas River HDD. Although we have no reason at this point to believe the release represents an imminent threat to human health or the environment, this incident raises concerns about potential long-term environmental impacts, including impacts on sensitive wetlands in Ohio. Moreover, the presence of diesel fuel in the drilling mud is inconsistent with the commitments made by Rover on which the Commission relied to certificate its project. We fully support the action of OEP and OE staff to address and investigate these issues.

"Under the Natural Gas Act, interstate natural gas pipelines cannot be constructed or operated without a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Commission. In determining whether a project is in the public interest, the Commission evaluates a number of factors set forth in a pipeline application, including the environmental impact of the proposed project. In this case, the Commission evaluated the potential environmental impact of the Rover Pipeline Project and concluded that "if constructed and operated in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, the projects will result in some adverse and significant environmental impacts, but these impacts will be reduced to acceptable levels with the implementation of the applicants' proposed mitigation and staff's recommendations, now adopted as conditions...." Thus, our approval of Rover's certificate is conditioned on the satisfaction of a crucial set of requirements that are intended to minimize the environmental impact of the project.

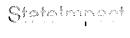
"All certificate holders, including Rover, are obligated to satisfy the requirements set forth in their certificate orders. It is essential that developers abide by their commitments to ensure that environmental impacts are minimized. The

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Commission's ability to rely on representations made before us that developers will follow certificate conditions is critical to our determinations regarding whether projects are in the public interest. If we learn that a developer is acting inconsistently with the terms of its certificate, it is incumbent upon the Commission and its staff to act to enforce those terms. Going forward, we expect that Rover will act consistently with its commitments in the certificate order and will undertake the future actions directed by Commission staff to mitigate the potential impacts caused by any introduction of diesel fuel into its drilling mud, however it might have occurred. We also expect Rover to immediately and fully cooperate with our staff, including, but not limited to, OEP and OE.

"Finally, we recognize that Rover will need a number of additional authorizations as the Rover Pipeline Project moves forward. With the assistance of OEP and OE staff, we will continue to closely monitor its progress to ensure that Rover follows the terms of its certificate."

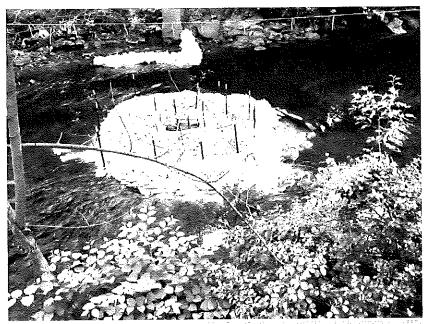


# PERUSYLVANIA

Energy Cavitarment Economy

# Sunoco's pipeline construction releases drilling mud into Delco Creek

MAY 15, 2017 | 6:13 PM BY SUSAN PHILLIPS



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Pipeline construction of Sunoco's Mariner East 2 has caused three separate releases of drilling mud in May, with two incidents resulting in a combined total of 575 gallons of bentonite clay entering Chester Creek in Brookhaven, Delaware County, according to Sunoco Pipeline spokesman Jeff Shields. Bentonite is a non-toxic substance commonly used as a lubricant in horizontal directional drilling. Substantial amounts of bentonite released into waterways can impact aquatic life, especially organisms that live on the bottoms of streams and wetlands.

No fish were killed as a result of the leaks, referred to as "inadvertent returns," according to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

Sunoco Pipeline spokesman Jeff Shields says the company doesn't "anticipate any harm to the environment" resulting from the releases.

"Inadvertent returns of bentonite mud are an occasional component of directional drilling operations," wrote Shields in an email. "Due to subsurface conditions and other geologic conditions of the locations, drilling mud is sometimes able to migrate through naturally occurring fractures in the soils and return to the surface."

## ABOUT STATEIMPACT PENNSYLVANIA

StateImpact Pennsylvania is a collaboration between WITF and WHYY. Reporters Marie Cosicit and Summ Phillips cover the fiscal and environmental impact of Pennsylvania's booming energy economy, with a focus on Marcellus Shale drilling. Read their reports on this site, and hear them on public radio stations across Pennsylvania. This collaborative project is funded, in part, through grants from the Heinz Endowments and William Penn Foundation.

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A similar incident occurred recently in Ohio where two million gallons of bentonite clay inundated a wetland during the construction of the Rover Pipeline by Energy Transfer Partners. The company recently merged with Sunoco. The Ohio EPA fined the company \$431,000 and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shut down construction on the project last week.

Eric Friedman, a spokesman for the Middletown Coalition for Community Safety, a group of residents opposed to the Mariner East 2 project, said Sunoco documented risks to water supplies in its permit filings with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

"As we've seen in this latest accident, those risks are not hypothetical," said Friedman. "Given their history I think we'll see more of these."

On May 3, 500 gallons of bentonite made its way through a storm drain into Chester Creek in Brookhaven, according to Sunoco. The next day, the company says 30 gallons of the mixture was released but workers prevented it from running into the creek.

An inspector from DEP visited the site on May 4, reporting the company had the spill under control and was in the process of cleaning it up. In an email sent to his supervisors, the DEP's Christian Vlot wrote that "they lost 20,000 gallons of fluid over the past few days so who knows where that went."

On May 10, 75 gallons of bentonite seeped up from the creek bed, which was contained with sand bags and then vacuumed, according to Shields.

Environmental geochemist Marie Kurz, who runs the geochemistry section at the Academy of Natural Sciences, says bentonite is a natural clay material often used in kitty litter and does not pose a chemical hazard to plants and animals. But Kurz says releases can impact water quality and a stream's ecology. The clay can cause turbidity and cloudiness, which in large concentrations can cut off light to plants and smother macro invertebrates, snails or salamanders that live on the bottom of streams.

"Streams are resilient," said Kurz. "A day or so of cloudy water and [aquatic life] can do fine. But weeks or months could eventually have an effect on the stream."

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