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Chief Karaya Gualli

DEP Public Hearing

June 12, 2017

Deny this pipeline

I'd like to thank the Department of Environmental Protection for allowing me to be heard today. I believe it's your mission statement that brings us here today:

MISSION STATEMENT

The Department of Environmental Protection's mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment. We will work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent pollution and restore our natural resources.

The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project is seeking permits to complete its environmentally destructive project by:

1. Running through documented Federally Registered properties containing Native American Artifacts & Burial Sites. These sites must remain **preserved, untouched and unharmed** in order to preserve its historic value. It is a reminder of the atrocities committed against Native Americans, which are still happening today. The Native American presence in Conestoga Township is very strong and discriminated against, still today. A non native cemetery is just as sacred as a Native American Burial ground. They are one in the same, yet a non native cemetery will be protected, preserved and bypassed while a Native American Burial site that is Federally Registered will be desecrated and destroyed as if it was NOTHING! THAT IS **DISCRIMINATION**, period!
2. The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline claims to connect northeastern Pennsylvania to markets in the Mid-Atlantic and southeastern states.

WE, THE PEOPLE OF CONESTOGA TOWNSHIP DO NOT WANT THIS, for many reasons: Several but not limited to being:

This pipeline will cause destruction of our properties by: Depreciation of property value. Negative environmental impact causing land, air, noise and water pollution in various ways on a continual basis, the very things the DEP stands to protect. Not to mention zoning issues regarding white noise, congestion of traffic, weight of trucks and equipment on roads not designed for that type of stress and making it extremely difficult for people to continue their daily commutes.

Per the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission report dated July 29, 2016 p.2 paragraph 2 states:

“Landscape Changes to the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District”

Within the revised boundaries, the properties are heavily predominated by a connecting set of rural single-family operating farms. Since 1966, there has been a gradual increase in areas of open land being **LET GO BACK TO MATURE STANDS OF TREES. IN MAJOR PART, THIS HAS OCCURRED TO CREATE SPECIFIC AREAS FOR SOIL EROSION PREVENTION”**

Per the DEP chapter 102/105 clearly states the protection of such Erosion and Sedimentation problems associated with construction and or development of land that is referred to on page 18-19 of the March 31, 2012 report

The Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline stated it would provide local jobs for the township. This is one of many false claims made by them. Let it be noted that not one employee is local.

Revised Boundaries for the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District

As per the PASHPO's request, for the purposes of this review, Figures 1 and 3 show the revised boundaries for the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District. This rural historic district area is confined to the three (3) identified and contributing historic properties that fall within the APE for the project. This modification shows a smaller-in-area Conestoga Township Rural Historic District for the purposes of this environmental review; however, and as stated in the HRSF and the previously submitted effects assessment letter (dated May 24, 2016), field survey work and affiliated in-depth research suggest that the district may extend beyond the surveyed area and revised boundaries.

The PASHPO has further requested that AECOM/URS concisely describe the discernible changes within the past 50 years (since 1966) to the cultural landscape within the revised boundary of the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District and adjacent land areas. This analysis is provided as follows:

Landscape Changes to the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District

Within the revised boundaries, the properties are heavily predominated by a connecting set of rural single-family operating farms. Since 1966, there has been a gradual increase in areas of open land being let go back to mature stands of trees. In major part, this has occurred to create specific areas for soil erosion prevention. This change has occurred also because these specific land areas are either steeply sloped and/or in association with less fertile soils, and often more susceptible to erosion.

Historic aerial photographs also portray that the farms within the rural historic district have greatly increased the adoption of contour plowing field techniques to tilled agricultural fields. Such adoption of contour plowing techniques greatly expanded throughout Lancaster County after World War II.

Of note is that the revised boundaries contain the historic River Corner Mennonite Meetinghouse and its adjacent cemetery. This historic and religious building is the center of the Mennonite community within Conestoga Township. Although the present meetinghouse was erected in 1880, it is on the site of the circa 1750 River Corner Mennonite Meetinghouse of hewn log construction, erected by Benedict Eschelmann. The adjacent cemetery is the oldest historic cemetery within Conestoga Township, dating back to 1750.

Landscape Changes Adjacent to the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District

There have been some changes in terms of land use and physical character since 1966 in the adjacent areas beyond the revised boundaries of the Conestoga Township Rural Historic District. These entail the following:

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VEGETATIVE COVER is extremely important in controlling erosion, because it provides the following benefits:

1. It shields the soil surface from raindrop impact.
2. Root systems hold soil particles in place.
3. The soil's capacity to absorb water is maintained.
4. Runoff velocity is reduced.
5. Evapotranspiration reduces subsurface water between rainfalls.

Soil erosion and the resultant sedimentation can be significantly reduced by decreasing the extent of existing vegetation removed and staging construction to reduce the duration of exposure. Special attention should be given to maintaining existing vegetation in areas having high erosion potential such as erodible soils, steep slopes, drainage courses, and streambanks.

TOPOGRAPHY The volume and rate of runoff are affected by the size, shape, and slope of a watershed. Increasing slope length and gradient increases the rate of runoff as well as the potential for erosion. Slope orientation can also influence erosion potential. For example, a south-facing slope having droughty soils may have poor growing conditions that make achieving an erosion-resistant vegetative cover difficult.

CLIMATE The frequency, intensity, and duration of rainfall events are important factors influencing the amount of runoff produced in a given watershed. Increased volume and velocity of runoff result in increased erosion potential. Where storms are frequent and intense or are of long duration, erosion risks are high. Seasonal changes in temperature, as well as variations in rainfall, help define the high erosion risk periods of each year. Precipitation falling as snow does not usually result in erosion. However, when the snow melts, and runoff occurs, erosion hazards can be high. Partially frozen soil has reduced absorption capacity, and while frozen soils are relatively erosion-resistant, soils with high moisture content are subject to uplift by freezing action. This makes them vulnerable to erosion upon thawing.

SEDIMENTATION

During a typical storm event, runoff rapidly increases to a peak and then diminishes. Soil particles are eroded and transported during the higher flows. As velocity decreases, the capacity of the flowing water to transport sediment decreases and some of the soil particles are deposited. Often, these particles are picked up once again by subsequent peak flows. In this way, eroded soil can be transported great distances downslope, or downstream, in intermittent fashion from their source. This process is called *sedimentation*.

A certain amount of sedimentation occurs in all stream channels. This natural process operates in dynamic equilibrium. However, when human activity changes the sediment load and/or the hydrology of a watershed, the stream channel is no longer in equilibrium. Over time, the stream channel will adjust to the changes. The size and shape of the channel will be revised to bring the system back into equilibrium. Where this results in channel erosion, additional material will be transported to downstream receiving waters affecting their equilibrium. Potential environmental and economic impacts due to this process of sedimentation will be discussed later.

EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION SITES

Land development activities often expose soils to the erosive forces of water through precipitation and stormwater runoff. The shaping of land for construction or development purposes removes the soil's protective cover and changes the characteristics of the soil itself in many ways that are often detrimental to infiltration, runoff patterns, and stream flow characteristics. Protective vegetation is reduced or eliminated, topsoil is removed and stockpiled, and cuts and fills are made, altering the topography and runoff characteristics of the site. This can increase the rate at which erosion takes place to 10 or many more times the natural rate, depending on site conditions. Even when the topsoil

is replaced following earthmoving, the physical properties of the soil have been changed. Surrounding properties as well as receiving waters can be adversely affected, even by projects of limited size. Uncontrolled runoff and the resulting sediment pollution can cause considerable economic damage to individuals and to society, in general. Lost water usages, damage to public and private facilities and water supplies, increased flooding, hazards to river traffic, and lost time, effort and money to remediate these problems are all attributable to sediment pollution.

While the benefits of development are desirable, there are some very serious potential hazards associated with that development which should be addressed. These include:

1. A significant increase in exposure of soil to erosive forces during construction
2. Increased volumes of stormwater runoff, accelerated erosion and sediment yield, and higher peak flows caused by:
 - a. Removal of protective vegetative cover
 - b. Exposure of underlying soil or geologic formations which are less permeable and/or more erodible than the original surface soil
 - c. Reduced capacity of soils to absorb rainfall due to compaction by heavy equipment
 - d. Enlarged drainage areas caused by grading operations, street construction, and stormwater conveyance facilities
 - e. Prolonged exposure of disturbed areas due to scheduling and/or sequencing problems
 - f. Reduced times of concentration of surface runoff due to steepened slopes, shortened flow paths, and use of materials with low resistance to flow
 - g. Increased impervious surface areas due to construction of streets, buildings, sidewalks, and parking lots
3. Alteration of the groundwater regime, which adversely affects drainage systems, slope stability, and survival of vegetation
4. Exposure of subsurface materials that are rocky, acidic, droughty, or otherwise unfavorable to the establishment of vegetation
5. Adverse alteration of surface runoff patterns

Although streams and rivers naturally carry sediment loads, sediment yields from construction sites can elevate these loads well above those in undisturbed watersheds. The erosion rates from construction sites are generally acknowledged to be much greater than from almost any other land use. Both field studies and erosion models indicate that erosion rates from construction sites are typically an order of magnitude larger than row crops, and several orders of magnitude greater than well-vegetated forests and pastures (USDA, 1970, cited in Dillaha et al., 1982; Meyer et al., 1971). Wolman and Schick (1967) studied fluvial systems in Maryland and found sediment yields in areas undergoing construction to be 1.5 to 75 times greater than in natural or agricultural catchments. A highway construction project in West Virginia disturbed only 4.2% of a 4.75 square mile basin, but this resulted in a three-fold increase in suspended solids (Downs and Appel, 1986).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF SEDIMENT

Stormwater discharges generated during construction have a potential for serious water quality impacts. The biological, chemical, and physical properties of the waters may be severely affected. A number of pollutants are often absorbed into the mineral or organic particles that comprise sediment. The erosion and transportation of sediment into aquatic ecosystems is the primary pathway for delivering nutrients (especially phosphorus), metals, and organic compounds. According to the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, "Sediment pollution in lakes, reservoirs and bays can introduce excess nutrients resulting in algal blooms; block the amount of available sunlight for aquatic plants; reduce water depth resulting in warmer water temperatures; and speed up the water bodies natural aging process (eutrophication)." It has been estimated that 80% of the phosphorus and 73% of the Kjeldahl nitrogen in streams is associated with eroded sediment (USDA, 1989, cited in Fennessey and Jarrett, 1994). Sediment can also act as a long-term storage media for toxicants. Studies show that pollutants such as DDT, DDE, PCBs and chlordane can be found at detectable levels in sediment deposited years ago at the bottoms of streams and rivers.

1. This pipeline will only benefit the selected few, none of them local township people. This pipeline will export the gas out of this country at the people's expense. The destruction and irreversible damage it is causing and will continue to cause the People of Conestoga Township far outweigh any benefit now or in the future.

There is no such thing as a safe pipeline. They will all weaken, decay and **LEAK** poison into our environment. This is inevitable, this is fact! In 2016 there was 29 gas pipeline explosion reported, 29! The long term damages of these reported explosions/leaks are yet to be determined. **No one can accurately determine what the depth of the environmental damages of these explosions as of yet. Thus far for 2017, there have been 10 reported gas leaks/explosions causing millions of dollars in damages, destroying homes, lands, water, air and wounding people. Why? Why is the greed of a corporation exporting this poison for profit more important than the American People?**

This planet, **Mother Earth**, does not need us to exist; however, **WE NEED HER TO EXIST!!!**

The DEP's mission statement list **FIRST**: The Department of Environmental Protection's mission is to protect Pennsylvania's air, land and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its **CITIZENS** through a cleaner environment." It goes on to state: "We will work as **PARTNERS** with **INDIVIDUALS**"

Key word being **INDIVIDUALS**, then it goes on to list organizations, governments and businesses **LAST**.

Well, the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline is a business and its greed should **NEVER** supersede the needs and wants of the people
If these permits are granted, look your children/grandchildren in the eyes and tell them, "**YOU'RE WELCOME!!!!**" for destroying their future!!!

Julia Garcia/Chief Karaya Guaili of The Taino **Ration**

2016[edit]

- On January 2, 3 people were injured, one seriously, one home destroyed, and 50 homes were damaged in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, when a leak gas from a gas main entered a home. Preliminary results indicate that a leak occurred at a weld seam on the gas main. Later, Oklahoma regulators filed a complaint over the failure with Oklahoma Natural Gas. The complaint alleged the utility failed to properly inspect its system following eight previous leak failures in the neighborhood going back to 1983.^{[562][563]}
- On January 9, a 30-inch Atmos Energy gas transmission pipeline exploded and burned in Robertson County, Texas. 4 families nearby were evacuated.^[564]
- On January 11, butane leaking from a pipeline storage facility, in Conway, Kansas, forced a closure of a nearby highway for a time.^[565]
- On February 14, a 6-inch crude oil pipeline broke near Rozet, Wyoming, spilling about 1,500 gallons of crude oil into a creek bed.^[566]
- On February 16, an explosion and fire occurred at a gas plant in Frio County, Texas. 2 employees at the plant were injured.^[567]
- On February 24, a 10-inch propane pipeline exploded and burned, near Sulphur, Louisiana. There were no injuries. About 208,000 gallons of propane were burned. The cause was from manufacturing defects.^{[568][569]}
- On March 11, about 30,000 gallons of gasoline spilled from a leaking plug on a pipeline, at a tank farm in Sioux City, Iowa.^[570]
- On March 22, about 4,000 gallons of gasoline spilled from a 6-inch petroleum products pipeline in Harwood, North Dakota.^[571]
- On April 2, the TransCanada Corporation Keystone Pipeline was observed by a local resident to be leaking, near Freeman, South Dakota. The cause was a crack in a girth weld, and amount of tar sands dilbit spill was about 16,800 gallons.^{[572][573]}
- On April 12, a pipeline at a gas plant in Woodsboro, Texas exploded, killing 2 men, and injured another worker.^[574]
- On April 17, a 10 petroleum products pipeline failed in Wabash County, Illinois, resulting in a sheen on the Wabash River. About 48,000 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled.^[575]
- On April 29, a 30-inch Texas Eastern/Spectra Energy pipeline exploded, injuring one man, destroying his home and damaging several others. The incident was reported at 8:17 a.m., near the intersection of Routes 819 and 22 in Salem Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Later, Spectra Energy Corp. announced plans to dig up and assess 263 miles of that pipeline, from Pennsylvania to New Jersey. Corrosion had been detected at the failed seam 4 years before the rupture.^{[576][577][578]}
- On May 20, a Shell Oil Company pipeline leaked near Tracy, California, spilling about 21,000 gallons of crude oil.^[579]
- On June 23, a Crimson Pipeline crude oil line leaked in Ventura County, California. Initial reports said the spill size was from 25,200 gallons to 29,000 gallons, but, later reports estimate 45,000 gallons of crude were spilled.^{[580][581]}
- On July 6, a Plantation Pipeline line was noticed to be leaking in Goochland County, Virginia. The spill did not reach nearby waterways.^[582]
- On August 12, contractors were working on one of the main lines in Sunoco Pipeline LP's Nederland, Texas terminal when crude oil burst through a plug that was supposed to hold the oil back in the pipeline and ignited. The contractors were knocked off the platform to the ground, suffering injuries from the fall and severe burns. 7 contractors were injured.^[583]
- On September 5, a pipeline in Bay Long, Louisiana was hit by dredging operations, resulting in a spill of about 5,300 gallons of crude oil into the water.^[584]

- On September 9, a Colonial Pipeline mainline leak was noticed by workers on another project, in Shelby County, Alabama. At least 252,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from line.^{[585][586]}
- On September 10, a Sunoco pipeline ruptured near Sweetwater, Texas. About 33,000 gallons of crude oil were spilled. The pipeline was just over a year old.^[587]
- On October 11, two Nicor Gas workers were injured, and two townhouse units destroyed in a massive fire and explosion, caused by a gas leak in Romeoville, Illinois.^[588]
- On October 17, an 8-inch ammonia pipeline started leaking, near Tekamah, Nebraska. A farmer living nearby went to find the source of the ammonia, and was killed by entering the vapor cloud. About 50 people were evacuated from their homes.^[589]
- On October 19, a contractor in Portland, Oregon hit a 1-inch gas pipeline during work. Within an hour, there were 2 explosions, injuring 8 people, destroying or damaging several buildings, and started a fire. Contractors claim a utility locate was done before work began.^[590]
- On October 21, an 8-inch Sunoco pipeline ruptured in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, spilling about 55,000 gallons of gasoline into the Susquehanna River. The river was running high at the time.^[591]
- On October 23, a pipeline ruptured on the Seaway Pipeline, in Cushing, Oklahoma, spraying the area with crude oil. About 319,00 gallons of crude were spilled. The cause was from prior excavation damage.^{[592][593]}
- On October 31, a Colonial Pipeline mainline exploded and burned in Shelby County, Alabama, after accidentally being hit by a track hoe. One worker died at the scene, and 5 others were hospitalized, with one of those workers dying a month later. The explosion occurred approximately several miles from the 9 September 2016 breach.^{[594][595][596]}
- On November 29, an Enterprise Products pipeline exploded in Platte County, Missouri, burning an ethane propane mixture. There were no evacuations or injuries.^[597]
- On December 2, equipment failure in a Denbury Resources source water pipeline led to a leak of approximately 84,000 gallons of source water into Skull Creek, in Bowman County, North Dakota.^[598]
- On December 5, a 6-inch Belle Fourche pipeline spilled 529,800 gallons of crude oil, into Ash Coulee Creek, in Billings County, North Dakota.^{[599][600]}
- Sometime in December, a natural gas pipeline running beneath Turnagain Arm in Cook Inlet, near Nikiski, Alaska, southwest of Anchorage ruptured, leaking large quantities of natural gas into the water.^[601]

29 total natural gas pipeline leaks/explosions throughout the United States in 2016!!!

How much damage has it caused?

How much of our environment has been destroyed because of it?

What type of future are we developing for our children/grandchildren?

2017[edit]

- On January 7, a Colonial Pipeline stubline leaked gasoline into Shoal Creek, in Chattanooga, Tennessee.^[602]
- On January 14, the Ozark Pipeline, an Enbridge, now Marathon, division, spilled about 18,900 gallons of light oil, at the Lawrence Pump Station, near Halltown, Missouri.^[603]
- On January 16, a gas pipeline exploded and burned, near Spearman, Texas. There were no injuries.^[604]
- On January 25, the Magellan pipeline leaked 138,600 gallons (3,300 barrels) of diesel fuel onto private agricultural land in Worth County, Iowa, near Hanlontown.^[605]
- On January 30, a Texas Department of Transportation crew dug into the 30 inch Seaway Pipeline, near Blue Ridge, Texas, spraying crude oil across road. About 210,000 gallons of crude were spilled. There were no injuries.^{[606][607]}
- On January 31, a DCP pipeline exploded under a runway, at Panola County Airport-Sharpe Field in Texas. There were no injuries, but the airport will shut that runway down for an extended amount of time.^[608]
- On February 10, a Phillips 66 natural gas liquids pipeline (TENDS pipeline Sorrento system)^[609] near the Williams-Discovery natural gas plant on US Route 90 near Paradis, Louisiana exploded while being cleaned, killing one worker, and sending another worker to a burn unit. Traffic on US 90 and La 631 was shut down and residents in the area evacuated.^{[610][611]}
- On February 15, a 36-inch Kinder Morgan gas pipeline exploded and burned in Refugio County, Texas. There were no injuries.^[612]
- On February 27, a crude oil pipeline ruptured in Falls City, Texas. spilling about 42,630 gallons of crude oil. The cause was from internal corrosion.^[613]
- On March 29, a natural-gas leak of a high-pressure pipeline, in Providence, Rhode Island, owned by Spectra Energy, released about 19 million cubic feet of natural gas, or enough natural gas to heat and keep the lights on for 190,000 homes for a single day. Approximately two gallons of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were also released, in the form of contaminated natural gas condensate.^[614]
- On April 4, a pump on the Dakota Access Pipeline spilled about 84 gallons of oil, at a pump station in Tulra, South Dakota. The leak was not noticed until May 9.^[615]
- On April 13 and 14, it was discovered that Energy Transfer Partners spilled drilling fluid into two separate wetlands in rural Ohio while constructing the Rover Pipeline. The spills occurred in wetlands near Richland County, Ohio. The spill on the 13th released 2 million gallons of drilling fluid and the spill on the 14th released approximately 50,000 gallons of drilling fluid.^{[616][617]}
- On April 21, a Plains All American Pipeline, experienced a crude oil release on the Buffalo Pipeline, near Loyal, Oklahoma. About 19,000 gallons of crude oil was spilled.^[618]
- On April 22, a 1,050-gallon oil pipeline spill near Bismarck, North Dakota polluted a tributary of the Little Missouri River, but was prevented from flowing into the larger waterway.^[619]
- On May 8, a Wood River Pipelines (part of Koch Industries) line broke in Warrensburg, Illinois, spill 250 gallons of crude oil.^[620]

This is just the ones reported thus far. What will it take for everyone to wake up and see how we are destroying our planet?

This planet, Mother Earth, does not need us to exist! We need Mother Earth to exist!!!