

June 12, 2017

Megan Lehman
Environmental Community Relations Specialist
Department of Environmental Protection
The Office of Communications
208 West Third Street Suite 101 | Williamsport PA 17701

re.: Testimony regarding approval of Chapter 102 and 105 Permits for Atlantic Sunrise

On behalf of the consumers, manufacturers, laborers and small businesses engaged in the ever-growing discussion on energy in Pennsylvania, the Consumer Energy Alliance urges you to approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits needed for the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline, which will enhance reliability and improve access to the massive gas reserves in the Marcellus Shale.

The Consumer Energy Alliance (CEA) brings together consumers, producers and manufacturers to engage in a meaningful dialogue about America's energy future. With more than 400,000 members nationwide, our mission is to help ensure stable prices for consumers and energy security for our nation. We believe the ██████████ ██████████ project does a good job of balancing our energy needs with our nation's environmental and conservation goals.

By permitting the Atlantic Sunrise project, Pennsylvania will see an influx of private investment, an increase in tax dollars and a boost in much-needed job creation. This project represents a \$3 billion private investment opportunity into Pennsylvania's economy, creating more than 8,000 jobs, plus 2,300 construction jobs during the one-year construction phase. This will increase economic activity by \$1.6 billion in the 10 county project area.

More importantly, homeowners, retirees, businesses and those living on fixed incomes will enjoy lower utility prices. Access to more affordable, reliable natural gas also means lower energy costs for general consumers, more opportunity for manufacturers and businesses, and a valuable raw feedstock for the construction of plastics, cars and other products made locally.

CEA has always strongly supported a robust natural gas pipeline network throughout the country and Pennsylvania. We advocate for pipeline safety and

believe that minimizing a pipeline's impact on communities is a key to any development plan --- and the Atlantic Sunrise project certainly fits the bill.

This proposed project establishes protections that safeguard against potential environmental issues, while simultaneously providing access to key natural resources. With environmental safety at its highest standard, this pipeline deserves our support and the speedy approval of all remaining environmental permits.

It's clear from the detailed planning and thorough analysis Williams has made public, that the company intends to do this job right, going above and beyond in its mitigation planning. This pipeline project has received a thorough review and vetting by the public. It deserves to be approved and these permits released.

We look forward to when the new pipeline is in operation in Pennsylvania.

Thank you,
Mike Butler, Consumer Energy Alliance