

*Public Comment and Hearings on Atlantic Sunrise Project*

**TESTIMONY**

**Good evening. My name is Jacob Hyder and I am a proud member of the Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA).**

**I am here to testify in favor of the Atlantic Sunrise Project and urge the approval of The Chapter 102 and 105 permits.**

**Williams has secured all necessary permits and has begun construction on Atlantic Sunrise facilities in other states. We understand the role that federal and state regulators play in protecting the health and safety of its citizens as well as the environment, including our wildlife.**

**Pipelines have already proven to be the safest and most efficient method to move natural gas to consumers. Currently, Williams touches more than 30 percent of the nation's natural gas, transporting it to markets across the country.**

**We also know that Williams favors the enforcement of tough regulations and realize that the current challenges which exist in the regulatory environment stem from jurisdictional overlap. This overlap has, unfortunately, stunted growth and has cost the state not just jobs but economic investments.**

~~The Chapter 102 and 105 permits, for which applications were first submitted in 2015, are among the final approvals needed to move this project forward.~~

**Williams has been working with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for more than two years, providing the data and information needed for the permit applications to be processed in a timely and efficient manner.**

**The Chapter 102 and 105 permit applications reflect the cooperation and collaboration Williams has demonstrated with DEP, as well as federal and state permitting agencies, to avoid or minimize impacts to wetlands, waterbodies and other sensitive environmental areas.**

**Williams has committed to implementing best-management practices during construction and restoration to mitigate potential impacts associated with installation of the project. It has dedicated, full-time environmental inspectors that will be employed during construction to oversee and ensure that Williams' best-management practices are implemented and that the project complies with applicable regulatory permit and approval conditions.**

**Williams has also demonstrated its commitment to environmental stewardship by voluntarily funding more than \$2.5 million in local conservation projects. This funding was not designed to nor does it replace traditional compensatory mitigation requirements of state and federal permitting agencies.**

**Working with stakeholders and permitting agencies, Williams has demonstrated a collaborative approach which has resulted in the adoption of more than 400 route modifications affecting more than 60 percent of its original route.**

**Per DEP's request, environmental and cultural resource surveys on 100 percent of the preferred route have been completed.**

**Atlantic Sunrise will not negatively impact water quality or supply during or after construction as full-time Environmental Inspectors will oversee construction activities to ensure compliance with required environmental mitigation measures.**

**The company has also avoided and minimized impacts to wetlands through in-field routing adjustments and by reducing the Project limits of disturbance where possible. There will be no loss of wetland acreage as a result of construction.**

**Abundant and affordable natural gas serves as a resource to heat our homes, power our businesses and manufacture the products that we depend on in our everyday lives.**

**Williams' Atlantic Sunrise is a nearly \$3 billion privately-funded energy infrastructure project that is ready to put Pennsylvania energy and more than 8,000 people to work.**

**Pennsylvanians will benefit from Atlantic Sunrise's approval, which will span 10 counties from Susquehanna down through Lancaster.**

**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.**

**We have millions of miles of pipeline in America. Whether we know it or not, we rely on those pipelines to provide energy every day. We rely on it to heat our homes and businesses, to prepare hot meals for our families, to provide electricity that allows us to turn on lights and watch television.**

**Quite simply, natural gas is essential to the quality of life that many of us take for granted. Pennsylvania has an opportunity now to strengthen and build on its strong energy infrastructure. The Atlantic Sunrise project will create important jobs and foster continued growth into the future. On behalf of the men and women of LiUNA, I urge DEP to approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permit applications. Thank you.**

**Jacob Hyder  
3077 S.Main St.  
Hanover Township,Pa,18706**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jacob Hyder', written over a horizontal line.