## PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC 835 Knitting Mills Way Wyomissing, PA 19610



January 30, 2020

Kevin White, P.E.
Environmental Group Manager
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Regional Permit Coordination Office
2 Public Square
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701-1915

Re: PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC

Project Phasing Discussion on January 16, 2019

Dear Mr. White:

On January 16, 2020 the PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC (PennEast) met with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to discuss upcoming changes to the PennEast Pipeline Project (Project). The proposed changes include constructing the Project in two stages and constructing a new metering and regulating (M&R) station, as depicted in the attached map and described below.

- Stage 1 would include the Project's mainline pipeline, the Blue Mountain Lateral, and aboveground facilities for the Revised PA Route between milepost (MP) 0.0R1 in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania and MP 68.2R3 in Northampton County, Pennsylvania.
- Stage 2 would include the mainline pipeline, pipeline laterals, and aboveground facilities of the Project between MP 68.2R3 and MP 114.02 in Mercer County, New Jersey.
- As part of Stage 1, PennEast would construct the Church Road Interconnects, a metering and regulating station that would provide interconnects with existing Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC and Adelphia Gateway, LLC pipelines. This new facility will be sited on a parcel that is owned by PennEast in Bethlehem Township, Northampton County.

If authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and after receiving the required permits and authorizations from other regulatory agencies, PennEast intends to construct Stage 1 in order to place the Stage 1 facilities into service by November 1, 2021. Stage 1 would be fully operational as a stand-alone project, and it is not dependent on the construction of Stage 2. Once PennEast obtains the required authorizations for Stage 2 of the Project, PennEast would construct the Stage 2 facilities.

As you are aware, the Department is currently reviewing PennEast's Joint Permit Applications (JPAs) for wetland and watercourse impacts in Luzerne, Carbon, Northampton, and Bucks counties and an Erosion and Sediment Control General Permit (ESCGP) application for the Project in Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Northampton, and Bucks counties. The currently proposed changes would not negate the effort that PADEP or County Conservation District staff have conducted while reviewing the applications to date. With the exception of the new M&R Station in Northampton County (the Church Road Interconnects), no route or workspace changes are proposed. PennEast envisions submitting relatively minor amendments

to the existing applications to provide clarification on its intent to stage the Project construction and to meet Chapter 102 requirements for the Church Road Interconnects (in the form of a site-specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plan and a Post-Construction Stormwater Management Plan). Other supporting information would include a Wetland Delineation Report Addendum that documents the upland conditions of the Church Road Interconnects site, as well as updated PNDI consultation letters and cultural resource reports.

It is PennEast's desire that PADEP continue to review the applications that PennEast has submitted, as well as any supplemental information necessary to address the proposed changes, and issue permit authorizations for the workspace proposed in the October 2019 Revised JPAs and ESCGP application, plus the newly-proposed Church Road Interconnects. PennEast understands that if there are substantial delays in constructing Stage 2 of the Project, additional coordination may be required to meet any temporal permit conditions at that time.

PennEast requests PADEP's input on the likelihood that PADEP would issue permits for both stages of construction in one set of permits. We would also appreciate your feedback on whether this change would require additional public notices, public comment periods, or other schedule-related considerations in PADEP's administration of the permits.

Thank you for your continued time and effort throughout the life of this project. Feel free to contact me at (610) 373-7999 x 1172 or <a href="mailto:aholly@ugies.com">aholly@ugies.com</a> if you need any additional information or have any questions during your review of this notification.

Sincerely,

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**Environmental Manager** 

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PennEast

