

226 Valley Road
Media, PA 19063

Tel. 610 358 1262

Email: rosemaryfuller@aol.com

February 1, 2018

BY CERTIFIED AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Karyn Yorby
Executive Assistant, Office of Programs
Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Re. Mariner East 2 – Pennsylvania Pipeline Project
Horizontal Directional Drilling – Comments on the HDD Reevaluation Report for HDD No.
S3-0591/PA-DE-0046.0000-RD & PA-DE-0046.0000-RD-16

Dear Ms. Yorby,

We are submitting these questions and comments, as requested, in response to the January 24, 2018 correspondence received from Sunoco Pipeline L.P., regarding the proposed horizontal directional drilling (HDD) required to advance their Mariner East 2 Pipeline Project. Please note that we are submitting these comments as laypeople, unfamiliar with the technical terms, details and scientific/engineering knowledge required for a project of this scale and complexity – as used in the report – and as homeowners whose private well is located within 150-200 feet (not the 490 feet as specified in the report) of the proposed drilling area based upon the engineering plans provided. On the Well Location Map our well is marked as WL-08102017-604-01 and from the scale of the map can be seen to be approximately 150 feet from the proposed HDD. We measured this ourselves to confirm the mistake by Sunoco. Additionally, our son has T1D (Type 1 diabetes) which, unlike type 2 diabetes (a metabolic disorder), is an incurable, life-threatening auto-immune disease. This results in him having a weakened immune system, making the supply of fresh, clean, potable water necessary to his continued health and wellbeing.

As mentioned previously, our private well is located approximately 150 feet from the proposed pipeline not 490 feet as incorrectly stated on the Well Location Map in the report. For the public record please note that our well is 150 feet deep with the pump set at 100 feet, according to our well company, Powell Pump and Well Drilling of Aston, Pa. Based upon our interpretation of the proposed engineering drawings, our well and pump is within the drilling zone. This clearly causes us some concern when reviewing the discussion regarding inadvertent returns (or IR's as identified by Sunoco) regarding groundwater management. My review of the geological information provided concludes that our groundwater is likely originating from within the "fractures and joints that provide secondary porosity in bedrock". The report mentions that the potential exists that "turbid water ... or dilute drilling fluids"

may be “discharged to the waters of the Commonwealth” and that Sunoco **DOES** anticipate that “HDD activities could affect individual well use during active drilling for wells located within 150 linear feet” of the HDD, which would include OUR private well.

Additionally, the information provided by Sunoco indicated that “drilling fluids under pressure migrated into open fractures at depth within bedrock and traveled to the surface” ... and “these discharges, if large enough, can affect the local water table and possibly affect domestic water supply yields”.

Our concerns are further confirmed by the development of a “contingency plan” to address these potential technical issues. Given this technical information we must conclude that this drilling **WILL** affect the quality and potentially quantity of water within our private well. This begs the question regarding what safeguards will be employed to protect the quality of our private well and resulting groundwater? Additionally, what recourse does my family have **WHEN, not IF** the quality of my water is impacted by this drilling program, based upon our interpretation of the information provided? That is not specified or clearly stated within this Sunoco Report.

The document further mentions establishing “a communication and response plan to respond to complaints from well owners during HDD activities upon confirmation of any impact from drilling operations and provide alternative water supplies where needed (page 10, point 2). Isn’t this like the proverbial closing of the stable door after the horse has bolted? As mentioned previously, our son has a weakened immune system and cannot tolerate any potential contamination or reduction of quality to our water. Additionally, it is not clear what constitutes “alternative water supply” and how this would impact our quality of life, let alone our property value. Please define the State’s approach to this process, understanding that our interpretation of the proposed plan is that any water quality impacts will be mitigated or addressed after they have been identified. We are formally noting on the record that a plastic tank or bottled water is NOT acceptable to us given our concern for the health and wellbeing of our son.

Although not germane to this technical discussion, it is not clear what legal recourse we have should this drilling activity impact our well. We understand that our well is likely constructed within some type of fractured rock. The Sunoco document mentions the use of drilling fluids and grout which, it appears to us as laymen, are designed to be injected into the rock to impede any lost water, which, in our minds, could dry within the fractures providing water to our well, potentially affecting the quantity and quality of water that is provided by our well.

It is also not clear what health risk is associated with this drilling process, let alone the material that may be transported within and through the pipelines. We have seen news reports from other areas where there have been fires, explosions and other issues associated with this drilling methodology and gas/oil transport. We would like to understand what safety measures are being employed to protect the health and safety of our family and neighbors, as that is not clearly stated or discussed.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Fuller