



August 18, 2016

Patrick McDonnell, Acting Secretary
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Rachel Carson State Office Building
400 Market Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101

Dear Acting Secretary McDonnell:

The Northeast Gas Association (NGA) respectfully asks that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) issue necessary permits or approvals as soon as possible to allow thorough and timely assessments along the Texas Eastern Penn-Jersey natural gas pipeline system.

A timely assessment of the integrity of the Penn-Jersey System is critical to ensure full system availability ahead of the winter heating season (beginning Nov. 1), and to avoid potential supply disruptions to homes and businesses in Pennsylvania and neighboring states.

We are submitting these comments on behalf of our local distribution company members in Pennsylvania and New Jersey who rely on the Texas Eastern system to ensure natural gas service to their customers. This issue also impacts our member utility companies in states downstream of the Delmont area, including utilities operating in New York and New England.

NGA is a regional trade association that focuses on education and training, technology research and development, operations, planning, and increasing public awareness of natural gas in the Northeast U.S. NGA represents natural gas distribution companies, transmission companies, liquefied natural gas importers and associate member companies. Its member companies provide natural gas service to 12.5 million customers in 9 states (PA, NJ, NY, CT, RI, MA, ME, NH, VT). NGA also administers the Regional Gas Supply Task Force to monitor gas supply deliverability and reliability in the Northeast during the winter months.

In April 2016 there was an incident in Salem Township, PA, on Spectra Energy's Texas Eastern natural gas pipeline. As directed by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) in its amended Corrective Action Order (CAO), Spectra Energy is conducting a thorough and conservative assessment to confirm the integrity of the entire Texas Eastern Penn-Jersey System – which consists of four parallel pipelines and runs from Delmont, PA, to Lambertville, NJ. This assessment, consistent with actions Spectra Energy had been taking prior to the amended CAO, includes viewing inspection data, evaluating construction records, performing field investigations, and scheduling additional interior and exterior inspections. These field investigations include uncovering the pipeline in certain locations to inspect it from the outside.

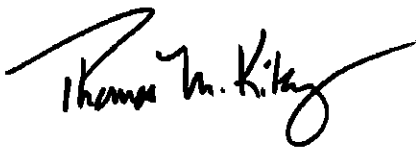
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Spectra recognizes the increased demand for natural gas during the winter heating season, and is executing a plan designed to return this system to full service by Nov. 1. Spectra remains in regular contact with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) about this plan and continues to support them in the ongoing incident investigation.

We hope that PADEP can immediately issue necessary permits or approvals to enable Spectra/Texas Eastern to conduct the necessary review in a timely manner in areas under PADEP's jurisdiction. Without timely action, it will be very difficult to complete the necessary inspections and repairs ahead of the winter heating season.

We thank you for your consideration of this request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas M. Kiley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Thomas M. Kiley
President & CEO

cc: Jorge Cardenas, Chairman
NGA Board of Directors