

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Rita Coleman, Program Manager Waterways and Wetlands 400 Waterfront Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Re: Mariner East II Pipeline Permits

August 18, 2016

Since its inception in 1972, the Beaver County Chamber of Commerce's influence has been a vital and successful part of the Beaver County business community. I am writing to urge your support and ask that you approve environmental permits for the Mariner East 2 pipeline, a project that is vital not only to our members but also to every resident in Pennsylvania.

The Beaver County Chamber of Commerce is comprised of 530 member companies and is focused on supporting the growth and improvement of our local economy. Our mission is to prepare, develop and promote the community for economic growth. Our vision is to strengthen local businesses so that Beaver County will be the premier place to live and work in the region and beyond.

Part of that vision is to grow our energy and manufacturing capabilities. Beaver County specifically and our entire region generally received positive news recently when Shell announced that it would site its cracker plant at a former industrial site in Potter Township here, about 30 miles northwest of Pittsburgh. This plant will have a tremendous economic impact. Construction is expected to begin in 2017, creating some 6,000 construction jobs. Commercial operation is due to begin early in the next decade and will employ about 600 people permanently. The operation is due to make 1.6 million tons a year of ethylene, which is used in products ranging from food packaging to automotive parts.

Sunoco Logistics' Mariner East 2 Pipeline project offers similar benefits. This project represents a \$3 billion private investment. The 350-mile pipeline will support 30,000 jobs during construction and generate an estimated \$62 million in taxes to Pennsylvania from workers directly employed by the project as well as related businesses. The pipeline and converted refinery at Sunoco Logistics' Marcus Hook terminal outside Philadelphia will employ 300 to 400 workers on a more permanent basis once construction wraps up, and it will generate \$100 million to \$150 million in annual economic impact.

Beaver County Chamber of Commerce

798 Turnpike Street • Beaver, PA 15009-2132 P: 724.775.3944 • F: 724.728.9737 Building a safe and reliable means of transportation for our natural resources is an essential component of the commonwealth's economic revival, and for our own local revitalization efforts. The Marcellus shale is the second-largest shale play in the world, and that provides Pennsylvania with a unique opportunity to establish itself as a world energy leader. We need to work together to support pipelines and encourage economic development, so companies come here for the affordable energy we can offer.

We support employment opportunities for Beaver County residents and want to protect the family-sustaining wages provided by pipeline- and energy-related jobs. DEP can help us achieve these goals by approving the permits needed to proceed with the Mariner East 2 project.

See m - .

Jack Manning, President & Executive Director Beaver County Chamber of Commerce