



J.T. THORPE & SON, Inc.

Established 1906

ENGINEERS and CONTRACTORS

AUG 08 2016

July 25, 2016

Department of Environmental Protection
Southeast Regional Office
Waterways and Wetlands Program
2 East Main Street
Norristown, PA 19401

ATTN: Domenic Rocco, Program Manager
Cosmo Servidio, Regional Director

Subject: Mariner East Pipeline II

To whom it may concern,

As a company serving the country's manufacturing industries, we at J.T. Thorpe & Son have witnessed and benefited from the development of Pennsylvania's natural gas resources.

JTT specializes in the engineering, supply and installation of heat-resistant, cold-resistant and acid-resistant materials, and the natural gas industry is the reason this 110-year-old company located our international fire-proofing headquarters in Western Pennsylvania.

Much of our work is done for shale-related facilities, such as terminals, that store, process and distribute natural gas, propane and the other materials produced in the drilling process. Our Ambridge manufacturing plant, opened just last year, now employs 120 skilled workers. Everyone hired into these jobs is local, primarily under the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, so their level of skill and experience is first-rate.

Over the last year, we have watched with interest the public debate over pipelines – the means by which natural gas resources in Pennsylvania reach markets. Some argue that the pipelines don't benefit Pennsylvania, they simply send our state's natural resources to other places. Our experience is different.

Although we are located in the Pittsburgh area, some of our major shale-related projects are 300 miles away on the Atlantic Seaboard, such as the Mariner East project that ships propane and ethane from this area via pipeline to the Marcus Hook terminal south of Philadelphia.

We were contracted to perform all the fire-proofing for both new tank and processing infrastructure at Marcus Hook for the Mariner East 1 and Mariner East 2 projects. And although the bulk of our work is being done for a terminal 300 miles away, that shale-inspired project has injected more than \$4 million into the regional economy here for fire-proofing alone. And when we're doing work, other companies nearby, like Sippel Steel or Envirosafe are often on the job also, meaning more local jobs and more local business.

7/25/2016

Mariner East and other projects have sustained our plant and allowed us to create those 120 jobs in Ambridge in 2015, where the Ohio Valley's first-rate craftsmanship helps protect critical facilities around the globe. That's how natural gas industry benefits Pennsylvanians east and west.

Sincerely,

J.T. THORPE & SON, INC.

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

Ryan Lawson
Fireproofing Division Operations Manager