



MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION
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August 16, 2016

Pa. Department of Environmental Protection
Scott Williamson, Program Manager
Waterways and Wetlands
909 Elmerton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17110

re: Sunoco Mariner East pipeline system, Chapter 102 and Chapter 105 permits

My name is Tom Palisin and I serve as executive director of The Manufacturers' Association. On behalf of our member companies throughout south central Pennsylvania, I strongly encourage the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to approve the environmental permit applications for Sunoco and the Mariner East 2 pipeline.

The Manufacturers' Association is a regional trade organization, serving member companies located in south-central Pennsylvania where almost 2,500 manufacturers do business. Manufacturing in this region employs over 110,000, provides \$11 billion in economic activity annually and is a global export leader. As the advocate for manufacturing in south central PA, we hear from companies who derive clear benefits from access to the state's shale gas resources. The PNC Economic Outlook Survey reports that lower energy prices have positively impacted profitability, sales and plans by manufacturers to add new employees. In addition, the Philadelphia Federal Reserve Business Outlook Survey reported that lower energy prices for 63% of surveyed manufacturers yielded a positive impact on their operations, 57% reported lowered costs of production and 22.9% had increased sales margins.

The Mariner East 2 pipeline will provide a reliable source of natural gas liquids products (NGLs) to our region utilizing take off points across the region that will allow access to ethane, butane and propane. These resources are critical to the operations of manufacturers based in Pennsylvania --- helping to drive reduced pricing for derivative products, and supporting domestic re-shoring activity by bringing a favorable shift in the U.S. balance of trade as ethylene capacity comes online. Further, Sunoco has committed to employing highly skilled, highly trained workers to construct the pipeline, supporting more than 30,000 jobs during the construction period and 300 permanent jobs.

The Mariner East 2 pipeline is a critically important component of Pennsylvania's midstream infrastructure, bolstering manufacturing while also providing NGL access to businesses and homes throughout our region. Sunoco has committed that the project will be completed safely and responsibly, and I support DEP's expedient approval of its environmental permit applications.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input during this process.

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