Comments regarding Sunoco Logistics’ Mariner East 2 Ch. 105 permit applications

August 24, 2016

To whom it may concern at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection:

My name is Edward Cavey and I am a resident of Chester County. I live within 1500 feet of the proposed pipeline. I am opposed to further expansion of oil & gas infrastructure in general and this project in particular because of the great harm that would result to our community health and safety and environmental degradation.

There is no safe or sensitive way to build these pipelines. ­­The work is inherently destructive and dangerous. It requires deforestation, destruction of small waterways and wetlands, encroachment on wildlife habitat and conversion of wild spaces to industrial zones. The Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force identified many issues with the current state of our oil and gas implementation, operation and regulation. For example, permits are not reviewed for cumulative and long-term impacts at a landscape level. Chosen routes don’t necessarily avoid sensitive lands, habitats or high consequence areas. Nor are the impacts to natural and cultural resources, landowners and communities along them always minimized or mitigated. *Sunoco proposes to put two pipelines in a 50-75 foot ROW with an existing pipeline from the 1930’s*.

There is growing evidence of the dangers of fossil fuel extraction and use. We jeopardize our communities and our environment by continuing in this direction.

Further, the burden on the citizens to review the operators and hold them accountable is untenable. Sunoco had multiple attempts to provide adequate applications. I would argue that they are still not complete. The public had 60 days to review the applications and provide comments on a very large complex project.

I am aware that your agency risks being faced with a lawsuit if permits are withheld or refused. However, your agency and hence the taxpayers would likely pay the brunt of operator malfeasance should this project move forward. We would like to remind the department that any legal fees your agency would incur would be paid for out of our pockets as well. We ask you to accept this risk on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania, in order to avoid a much greater catastrophe. Please work with us, not against us.

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