



COURTHOUSE SQUARE
SUITE 702
100 WEST BEAU STREET
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
724-228-6722 FAX 724-228-6965

Department of Environmental Protection Southeast Region Waterways and Wetlands Program 2 Main St. Norristown, PA 19401

Chapter 102 Permit No. ESG0100015001 & Chapter 105 Permit No. E15-862

On behalf of Washington County, I am writing to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to advocate for the Mariner East pipeline and emphasize the environmental and economic benefits that the pipeline provides our county.

As Commissioner of Washington County, I am committed to protecting our local environment, promoting job growth, and keeping taxes reasonable for our residents. The energy sector has created jobs and boosted the economy throughout Western Pennsylvania and across the state. Washington County has profited from oil and natural gas drilling, but without an efficient means to get these resources to market, the positive benefits this industry provides Pennsylvania will never be attained. The Mariner East pipeline is the means to connect us with markets.

Protecting our community is of the utmost importance, which is why pipelines are the preferred means of transporting these products. As trucks and trains are more prone to dangerous accidents, underground pipelines are a safe, viable, and efficient option for energy transportation.

With construction nearing an end, Mariner East has applied for a modification to their construction method at one location – a switch to an open cut trench. This is intended to be a better alternative for local communities and the environment and it is my hope that the DEP will approve this modification without further delay.

The Mariner East project has already generated jobs and revenue, and only promises more positive benefits once completed. Over the past decade, the oil and gas industry has produced tens of billions of dollars, and thousands of jobs for Pennsylvanians. In Western Pennsylvania, the ethane cracker plant has spurred the Beaver County economy through job creation, taxes, and localized revenue creation. These examples are emblematic of energy production's widespread benefit in Pennsylvania.

I encourage the DEP to take into account Energy Transfer's environmental commitment and the economic impact the oil and gas industry has had on Pennsylvania as you consider the Mariner East pipeline. Washington County, and the State of Pennsylvania, have benefited from oil and gas, and continued investment in the industry promises to be similarly lucrative. Thank you for your consideration on this important matter for my constituents and citizens across the state.

Sincerely,

Larry Maggi,

Lany Maggi

Washington County Commissioner