



# Pennsylvania Propane Gas Association

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**PAPropane.com**

June 15, 2021

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

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

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Propane Gas Association please accept our support for the modification to the construction technique on the Mariner East pipeline at one location in Chester County.

The Pennsylvania Propane Gas Association (PAPGA) represents over 300 companies (including branches) that provides clean energy to more than 641,580 residential and 72,780 commercial customers across the state. Our industry contributes nearly \$1.8 million a year to Pennsylvania's economy and employs more than **2,600 people** at over **115 companies** in every county statewide.

With so much uncertainty in the world these days, one thing many Pennsylvanians do not have to worry about is how they'll heat their homes during the coldest winter months. More than 235,490 household rely on propane as their primary home heating source, and this domestic fuel source remains abundant and affordable.

Propane is a clean, low-carbon energy that is an approved alternative fuel under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Act. While propane is a co-product of natural gas processing, it does not present the traditional environmental profile of a fossil fuel. Propane is a key to America's move to a low-carbon future. It is used in nearly 13 million U.S. households for residential purposes for water heating, indoor and outdoor cooking, clothes drying, fireplaces, backup power and outdoor living and by millions of Americans for transportation, commercial, industrial, and agricultural applications. You will find propane powering fleets of buses serving schools. And do not forget the tens of thousands of forklifts operating in enclosed warehouses where low emissions are highly valued, the thousands of mowers and the myriad high-intensity energy agricultural uses like grain drying.

Energy is sometimes a divisive issue however the one thing Democrats and Republicans agree on is the need for our nation's energy independence. The increased development of the Marcellus and Utica shale formations has decreased our need for foreign energy sources. Not only is Pennsylvania helping to shape this new global energy dynamic consumers are reaping the benefits.

Continued investments in pipeline infrastructure to safely and responsibly transport energy products to market is essential to ensure consumers continue to enjoy the many benefits of our abundant, affordable, domestic energy resource. The Mariner East pipeline is a key component to the success of our operations. Energy Transfer's commitment to finish this pipeline, utilizing a trench cut method as opposed to horizontal directional drilling, is an acknowledgement of their effort to complete the project in a sound and orderly manner.

Not only are pipelines a safe and efficient way to transport energy products, utilizing them has a less damaging environmental impact than other forms of conveyance. This reduces our carbon footprint significantly.

We respectfully urge DEP to approve Energy Transfer's modified plans to finish constructing the final part of the Mariner East pipeline. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Shelby L. Bell  
Executive Director