



June 18, 2021

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

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

Submitted via email: ra-epww-sero@pa.gov

DEP-SERO Permit Review Team:

My name is Stephanie Catarino Wissman and I am the Executive Director of API Pennsylvania, a division of the American Petroleum Institute. API offers these comments in support of the Mariner East pipeline network and the proposed permit modifications as a way to ensure this project is finished in the most environmentally sound way.

API represents approximately 600 companies within the oil and natural gas industry. We advocate on behalf of a sector that is responsible for millions of American jobs and generates billions of dollars. API works to improve the well-being of industry employees and influence policy to support the changing needs of our members.

Over the last 100 years, API has been a leader in setting standards to enhance operational and environmental safety, efficiency and sustainability. The welfare of neighboring communities and protecting our natural resources are important priorities for our organization. In this case, Energy Transfer, which is Mariner East's project proponent, has developed a comprehensive and meticulous environmental plan to protect Pennsylvania's environment and to reduce impacts on the surrounding community during construction. For example, Energy Transfer has pivoted from horizontal directional drilling to open cut trench work, which removes possibility of inadvertent returns. In addition, a trench installation provides a more predictable construction timeline and allows crews to exit a specific area in a shorter period of time, which is preferable to local residents.

Just as the national economy has benefited from domestic energy production, Pennsylvania is poised to receive increased revenue upon the completion of the Mariner East project, and it is time to get the job finished. The construction of this pipeline has stimulated local employment for skilled laborers and others all along the line, and the completed pipeline projects millions of dollars in state and local taxes, while also spurring spinoff economic opportunities up and down the network.

API strongly encourages DEP to approve the application for modifications to the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the Mariner East pipeline project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Stephanie Catarino Wissman'.

Stephanie Catarino Wissman
Executive Director