

JASON ORTITAY, MEMBER
46th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
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COMMITTEES:

Education
Environmental Resources and Energy
Gaming Oversight
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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

As a state representative for Pennsylvania's 46th legislative district, I encourage the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to approve the modifications to the construction method on the Mariner East Pipeline and allow this critical project to be completed.

My district constitutes sections of Washington County and Allegheny County. As a representative, I have worked hard to increase job creation and strengthen our local economy. For these reasons, we support the energy industry and the beneficial impact that natural gas and oil has brought not just to my district but to all of Pennsylvania.

The 46th district need not look far to see the positive impact that the energy industry has had. In neighboring Beaver County, residents have benefited from the Ethane Cracker plant. The plant has lived up to its potential as it revitalized the local community through employment opportunities, investment, and boosted revenue.

As a member of the House's Environmental Resource and Energy Committee, I can tell you that pipeline development is critical. Currently, Pennsylvania does not have enough pipeline capacity to support our burgeoning natural gas sector, which is now the second largest in the nation. Pipelines like Mariner East connect our natural gas production operations in my district to markets. Additionally, they do this in the safest, most efficient manner.

Over the past decade, the industry has produced \$45 billion for Pennsylvania. The Mariner East pipeline has generated \$9.1 billion through construction alone, and once the project is completed, the state will enjoy efficient energy production and even more tax revenue.

The permit currently under review should be approved without unnecessary delay. The new proposal ensures safe construction with the least amount of harm to the environment and local communities. The pipeline developer has taken the necessary time to work with local officials and regulators to weigh countless options with the proposal before you proving to meet all objectives based on realities in the field.

Please approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits for the alternative construction method to help keep Pennsylvania moving forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Ortity". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

Jason Ortity

State Representative

46th Legislative District