

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP

COPY

CHESTER COUNTY  
1580 PAOLI PIKE, WEST CHESTER, PA 19380-6199

October 5, 2017

The Honorable Thomas Wolf  
Office of the Governor  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf:

On October 3, 2017, the East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors approved a resolution regarding the need for policy changes with respect to oil and gas pipelines. This step was taken in response to the significant impact that the installation of Sunoco's Mariner East 2 pipeline has had on the health, safety and welfare of the Township's 18,026 residents. Sunoco's drilling operations generate tremendous noise levels—with recent readings of 94 decibels, well in excess of the 60-decibel threshold stipulated in the Township's noise ordinance—and vibrations that have left homes along the pipeline route rattling for hours on end.

As Thomas Jefferson famously said, "the government closest to the people serves the people best." Pennsylvania's local municipalities—be they cities, boroughs or townships—are proud to realize Jefferson's vision. We are on the front lines daily, solving problems and resolving disputes on a host of critical issues, not the least of which involve zoning and land use decisions. However, our authority to regulate any aspect of pipeline siting, drilling or conveyance is paper thin, which has resulted in confusion, frustration and even anger on the part of our residents.

East Goshen Township takes great pride in being one of the premier municipalities in Chester County. Unfortunately, our Township is being literally cleaved apart by this project. Moreover, upon completion of the Mariner 2 and Mariner 2x pipelines, the Township will have 11 pipelines running through it, and fears have grown about potentially more pipelines coming in the future. This trend is unsustainable and, frankly, unacceptable.

We would welcome you to visit the Township and observe the drilling operations first hand to understand how the project has profoundly upset the quality of life for many Township residents.

In the meantime, we would strongly encourage you to give careful consideration to the attached resolution and use it to initiate discussions with the state legislature about how the financial interests of those in the natural gas-rich regions of the Commonwealth can be married with the profound quality of life issues faced in regions through which that same gas is being conveyed.

Sincerely,



Louis F. Smith, Jr.  
Township Manager

Attachment

cc: Senator Thomas Killion  
Representative Carolyn Comitta