

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
CHESTER COUNTY
1580 PAOLI PIKE, WEST CHESTER, PA 19380-6199

August 19, 2020

Governor Tom Wolf
Office of the Governor
508 Main Capital Building
Harrisburg PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf

The Board of Supervisors of East Goshen Township, is writing to express our ongoing serious concerns regarding the health and public safety of our residents, and those of the greater Chester County area. Our concerns have substantially escalated regarding Sunoco/Energy Transfer's Mariner East 2 and 2X project, the operation of Mariner One, and the 12-inch workarround pipeline.

The recent drilling fluid spill into Marsh Creek is a pivotal moment in the timeline of this project for several reasons:

- The significant damage inflicted on this treasured water resource is, at its core, illustrative of the significant and largely unmitigated damage that this project has brought to Chester County.
- The fact that Sunoco/Energy Transfer under-reported the actual number of gallons spilled mirrors the *under-estimated true impact* of this project on local governments and residents.
- The incident at Marsh Creek validated the concerns that residents and elected officials have repeatedly voiced surrounding water contamination and industrial waste spills associated with Sunoco/Energy Transfer's substandard drilling operations.
- The spill at Marsh Creek confirmed Sunoco/Energy Transfer's blatant disregard for Pennsylvania's natural resources and communities and their continued inability to complete the project without leaving detrimental, long-term impacts on Pennsylvania communities.

Marsh Creek State Park is not only a frequent recreation site for our residents, but it is an essential source of drinking water for Downingtown Water Authority and Aqua Pennsylvania's West Chester facility. The amount of industrial bentonite, estimated to be 10,000 gallons, will have lasting impacts on the ecological stability of the lake and

surrounding wetlands. As drilling fluid settles into the sedimentary layers of the lake and its downstream tributary, the East Brandywine, the long-term effects may not be known for a long time.

On October 5, 2017, we sent a similar letter, describing how our township was “literally being cleaved apart by this project”, rattled by industrial vibrations, with noise levels far exceeding municipal ordinances. The situation in October 2017 was described as “unsustainable and frankly, unacceptable”. Since then, the conditions have not improved but escalated to include additional spills of drilling fluid on public and private property, contaminated dust escaping from Sunoco worksites and coating resident homes, and significant road damage, including subsurface conditions still under investigation in coordination with PennDOT.

The Commonwealth’s repeated previous attempts to impose enforcement actions have not resulted in any meaningful improvements to Sunoco/Energy Transfer’s operations and have not prevented egregious and damaging incidents, which have only increased in severity.

The health and safety of our residents remains under constant threat with both the active construction and planned operation of the Mariner East pipelines. The permeable geology that is prevalent in our area and proximity of homes, schools, and businesses to this proposed project which carries highly volatile liquids makes the drilling and transportation of these materials uniquely dangerous to our area.

For these reasons, we are joining other local townships and the Chester County Commissioners in calling for the revocation of the permits issued to Sunoco/Energy Transfer.

We urge your immediate attention to this critical action.

Sincerely,



Louis F. Smith, Jr.

Township Manager

For the East Goshen Township Board of Supervisors