

PIPELINE TASK FORCE
Thursday, February 9, 2023
East Goshen Township Building
FINAL MINUTES

Members Present are highlighted:

Chair: Gerry Sexton; Vice Chair: Jim Christenson

Members: Judi DiFonzo, Paul Kersavage, John McDonough

Others Present are highlighted

Township Supervisor: David Shuey; Office Administrator: Ashley Nowak

COMMON ACRONYMS:

<i>ACOE</i>	<i>Army Core of Engineers</i>
<i>BI&E</i>	<i>Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement</i>
<i>BOS</i>	<i>Board of Supervisors</i>
<i>CCATO</i>	<i>Chester County Association of Township Officials</i>
<i>CCPC</i>	<i>Chester County Planning Commission</i>
<i>DCNR</i>	<i>Department of Conservation and Natural Resources</i>
<i>DEP</i>	<i>Department of Environmental Protection</i>
<i>DES</i>	<i>Department of Emergency Services</i>
<i>EGT</i>	<i>East Goshen Township</i>
<i>ET</i>	<i>Energy Transfer</i>
<i>FEMA</i>	<i>Federal Emergency Management Agency</i>
<i>HDD</i>	<i>Horizontal Directional Drilling</i>
<i>IR</i>	<i>Inadvertent Return</i>
<i>ME1</i>	<i>Mariner East 1</i>
<i>ME2</i>	<i>Mariner East 2</i>
<i>NGL</i>	<i>Natural Gas Liquids</i>
<i>PHMSA</i>	<i>Pipeline Hazard Materials and Safety Administration</i>
<i>PMN</i>	<i>Post Meeting Note</i>
<i>PTF</i>	<i>Pipeline Task Force</i>
<i>PUC</i>	<i>Public Utility Commission</i>

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Gerry called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Gerry called for a moment of silence for all emergency medical responders.

Recording

The meeting was not being recorded.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on January 12, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

None.

Chairperson's Report

Gerry reported that the ABC Planning Session went well. Supervisor Mike Lynch suggested that the PTF invite the operators of pipelines EGT to their meetings. Derek Davis (Township Manager) will provide a list of contacts. Supervisor Cody Bright also suggested inviting State Representative Chris Pielli to a PTF meeting. Jim will reach out to Chris.

Reports

Legislative Update

Judi reported that there is no update from the PA House of Representative since they have not been meeting.

Old Business

Leak detection at valve/meter stations

A letter was previously sent to Adelphia requesting installation of external leak detectors at their natural gas valve station on Paoli Pike. There has been no response. Ashley reported that Derek will follow up with Adelphia. The PTF also requested that Derek contact the operators of the other valve stations in EGT to inquire whether or not they are currently equipped with external leak detectors.

John reported that he drove around to look at the four valve stations in the township. He will send a PDF of the information he put together to all members. He said the valve station for the Williams natural gas pipeline is approximately 100 feet off Paoli Pike. The PTF voted unanimously to not request that bollards be installed around this valve station.

Recent ME1 Activity

There was recent work on ME1 in West Goshen on Boot Road at the Rt. 202 interchange. In addition, Gerry reported that he learned there were repair activities observed in numerous other areas including Exton, Edgemont, and Middletown. There has been none observed in East Goshen as of this meeting. David stated that ME1 lines throughout East Goshen were replaced in the 1980's. Gerry also reported that Energy Transfer has employed a new land agent firm, John Wood Group plc. They are a British multinational engineering and consulting business. Their land agent stated that ME1 is being repaired in preparation for recommissioning. The PTF will continue to monitor activities regarding ME1.

Input to PEMA State Hazard Mitigation Plan update

Gerry briefly discussed some preliminary comments on the risk assessment chapter for gas and liquid pipelines. The chapter on mitigation strategies also needs to be reviewed. Members are to send their comments to Ashley by March 1st so she can compile them for the next meeting.

New Business

Future Newsletter Articles

Ashley reported the updated newsletter schedule. Jim suggested that we solicit comments from residents for topics of future articles. This would allow us to better inform residents about what we are currently doing and ask them what they would like to see from the PTF going forward.

Pipeline Information Database

Gerry suggested that the PTF create a pipeline database using Microsoft Excel. It could include information like pipeline owner, pipeline name, contents, pipe diameter/size, operating pressure and emergency contact numbers. At first this database would be a tool for the PTF to use internally. Eventually it could be posted on the township website for public use. John will start to put the database together. Ashley will talk with Mark Miller (Director of Public Works) and Derek Davis to see if there is an existing database and if there is a way we can create an interactive map to show pipelines and valve stations.

ME2 Pipeline Construction Records

The PTF would like to obtain pertinent construction records for the ME2 project. It is thought that the PUC is the first agency to contact. This request would probably be in the form of a letter. Paul will work on drafting one. David will talk with the township solicitor for advice in this matter.

Liaison Reports

Judi attended the Chester County Environmental Alliance meeting on 01/12/2023. They discussed a potential hydrogen hub that was being planned in West Whiteland but the company has since withdrew their plans. Judi suggested that we invite Ginny Kerslake to a future PTF meeting and Gerry agreed. David will talk to her about attending.

David reported that Chester County has selected a vendor to develop a hazard mitigation plan specific to natural gas liquids pipelines. The county expects to have a final draft by June 2023. David did inform them that we would like to be involved in the process.

Any Other Matter

None.

Correspondence

None.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 9, 2023 @ 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Nowak, Office Administrator

F:\Data\Shared Data\Minutes\Pipeline Task Force\2023\Pipeline TF Mins 2-9-2023 FINAL.docx