

PIPELINE TASK FORCE
Thursday, March 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; Township Manager: Derek Davis; 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 5:28 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Gerry called for a moment for Sgt. Christopher Fitzgerald of the Temple University Police Department who was killed in the line of duty on 02/18/2023.

Recording

The meeting was not being recorded.

Discussion with State Representative Chris Pielli

State Representative Chris Pielli was unable to attend tonight's meeting. The PTF will look to reschedule with him for a future meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on February 9, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

Christina Morley from East Goshen Township advised the group about Rose Tree Media School District wanting to build a new school near active pipelines that carry hazardous materials. The Edgmont Township board of supervisors voted against a zoning amendment required for this proposal. The school district plans to appeal that decision. The law firm Lamb McErlane is representing Rose Tree Media School District in this case. This firm represented EGT in the case of Flynn vs Sunoco and is currently the EGT Solicitor. The concern is that Lamb McErlane had or has clients on both sides of the issue regarding hazardous pipelines in high consequence areas. Derek noted that although the law firm is the same, the specific attorneys involved are different. Gerry commented that he wanted the EGT BOS to be aware of this situation and to keep it in mind when dealing with Lamb McErlane going forward.

Lora Snyder from Edgmont Township mentioned that she has been involved with pipeline issues there.

Ginny Kerslake from West Whiteland Township informed the group about potential pipeline projects. The PTF invited Ginny to the meeting on 04/13/2023 to make a presentation on this topic.

Chairperson's Report

None.

Reports

Legislative Update

Judi reported that a new Speaker of the PA House of Representatives was elected and legislative work should resume shortly.

Old Business

Leak detection at valve/meter stations

Derek reported that he followed up with Adelpia regarding leak detection at their valve station. However, the people to whom he sent the original letter no longer work for the operator of this pipeline. He will continue to work on making contact with Adelpia and the operators of the other stations in the township.

Recent ME1 Activity

Gerry reported that township residents noticed there was evidence of digging in the pipeline easement near the sign for the Goshen Village Shopping Center on Boot Road.

Gerry advised Derek and he had Mark Miller (Director of Public Works) investigate the Pennsylvania 811 history. An Aqua contractor was working on water pipes in this area. EGT had not been notified of this work. Gerry stated it would be better if EGT was given prior notice of any digging in easements containing pipelines. The group discussed some possible ways of implementing this. The only practical option would involve modification of the PA One Call system. This topic will be discussed with our state representative and senator at future PTF meetings.

Gerry gave an update on recent ME1 activity and PUC requirements. In 2020, the PUC approved a settlement with Sunoco in response to a leak of ethane and propane in 2017. The major component of this settlement was that a remaining life study of the ME1 pipeline be conducted by an independent expert. DNV GL USA Inc. (DNV) was selected. This study has been completed and a public summary was published on the PUC website in July 2021. The most significant conclusion of this study was that pipe in crude oil, refined products, NGL, and natural gas service does not have a defined life expectancy. When properly maintained, it can operate for an indefinite period of time. This statement must be interpreted within the context that proper maintenance includes replacement as necessary. Also, DNV reviewed key parts of the most recent risk analysis performed by Sunoco for ME1 and confirmed that it meets the minimum regulatory requirements. Another significant component of the settlement was that Sunoco would submit annual updates to the remaining life study for as long as ME1 remains in HVL service. In July 2022, Sunoco notified the PUC that ME1 is no longer in HVL service and accordingly will not be submitting annual updates. In mid-February 2023, Energy Transfer put ME1 back in service transporting diesel. According to ET, they can also transport other refined petroleum products. [PMN: Gerry forwarded documents and links regarding this update to the group on 03/10/2023.]

ME2 Pipeline Construction Records

Paul reached out to the PUC for records, but struggled with getting any answers. He was told to send a letter per the Freedom of Information Act. Paul will draft a letter from EGT to be sent to the PUC for the ME2 construction records under the Right to Know Law.

New Business

Chester County Natural Gas Liquids Pipeline Emergency Planning Annex Development

Derek and Ashley attended an initial meeting on 03/08/2023. It was a very brief introduction with the county and the emergency management plan consulting firm IEM. There were 12 municipalities invited. There will be a specific annex for each municipality. The county anticipates this being an 18 month project. Gerry wants to make sure that the PTF can review the draft as well as the BOS. The PTF will also discuss inviting the consultants to an upcoming meeting.

Subsidence on Rt. 352

Public works monitors the subsidence on Rt. 352 near the Mariner East 2 pipeline. Derek stated there have been no significant changes.

Liaison Reports

None.

Any Other Matter

None.

Correspondence

None.

Next meeting

The PTF discussed whether the next meeting should be a workshop on 03/23/2023 or regularly scheduled meeting on 04/13/2023. There was a unanimous vote to not have the workshop and keep the regularly scheduled.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Nowak, Office Administrator

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