

PIPELINE TASK FORCE
Tuesday July 15, 2025
East Goshen Township Building
FINAL MINUTES

Members Present are highlighted

Chair: Gerry Sexton; **Vice Chair:** Mary McCloskey; **Members:** Judi DiFonzo

Others Present are highlighted

Township Supervisor: Barbara Emery; **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>MACH2</i>	<i>Mid-Atlantic Clean Hydrogen Hub</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

Gerry called the meeting to order at 10:07 am.

Recording

The meeting was not being recorded.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes from May 19, 2025 were approved as is.

Public Comment

Russ Frank had questions about the proposed hydrogen hub MACH2. Gerry responded.

Chairperson's Report

Gerry summarized an article he read about planting trees to offset carbon emissions from fossil fuels. Researchers in the UK performed calculations to determine the practicality of this methodology. They started by estimating the potential carbon dioxide emissions from the fossil fuel reserves of the 200 largest oil, gas, and coal fuel companies. They then determined the ability and cost of planting trees to remove carbon through photosynthesis. They concluded that trees would have to cover the entire land mass of North and Central America to capture this amount of carbon dioxide. The cost to plant that many trees would be \$10.8 trillion, which is more than the entire combined market valuation of \$7.01 trillion for these companies. This article makes the point that it is financially impossible to offset enough carbon to compensate for future fossil fuel burning.

He also shared another article about a startup company using bacteria to turn carbon dioxide into commercial-grade compounds. By using carbon dioxide that would have otherwise entered the atmosphere, this technology can reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Old Business

Hydrogen Pipelines Ordinance

The BOS voted on June 17, 2025 to advertise the Hydrogen Pipeline Ordinance. It is on the BOS meeting agenda to be voted on for passage at their meeting tonight. [PMN: The BOS approved this ordinance on July 15, 2025.]

Update on formal request to PennDOT for guard railing on Paoli Pike at the Williams natural gas valve station

The formal request was submitted to PennDOT by Pennoni. It is typically a 4 to 6 week turnaround time for a reply.

Update on jet fuel pipeline leak in Upper Makefield Township

Judi had previously asked if water quality testing by Aqua would have detected the compounds from this leak. Gerry reviewed the Aqua 2024 Water Quality Report for the Main System in the West Chester area for some guidance. There is testing for certain volatile organic contaminants. However, it is unclear if typical water quality testing protocols would have detected the compounds in question. Also, the affected wells were private water sources which are not routinely tested by a municipal water authority. DEP has scheduled a town hall in Upper Makefield Township building tonight to provide updates.

New Business

PTF article for next township newsletter

The group discussed ideas for the next article. Ashley will talk with Jessica Wilhelmy about the due date. This item will be on the agenda for the next PTF meeting.

PA House Bill 502

The bill was tabled by the PA House Energy Committee. It was noted that the West Whiteland Township BOS sent a letter to Senator Comitta and Representative Howard stating their opposition to this bill.

Inviting our local legislators to future PTF meetings

Mary will email our state legislators (Kristine Howard, Chris Pielli, and Carolyn Comitta) advising them of our future PTF meetings. She will determine if they would be interested in attending.

Reports / Legislative Update

None.

Liaison Reports

None.

Correspondence / Any Other Matter

None.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2025 at 10:00am.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32am.

Respectfully submitted,
Ashley Nowak, Office Administrator

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