

PIPELINE TASK FORCE
Monday, May 18, 2026
East Goshen Township Building
FINAL MINUTES

Members Present are highlighted

Chair: Gerry Sexton; Vice Chair: Mary McCloskey (Zoom); Members: Judi DiFonzo, David Shuey

Others Present are highlighted

Township Manager: Derek Davis; Township Supervisor: Ann Duffield; Assistant to the Township Manager: Ashley Nowak; Resident: Carolyn Sollecito (Zoom)

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 10:03 am.

Recording

The meeting was not being recorded.

Approval of Minutes

The draft minutes from March 17, 2026, were approved as is.

Public Comment

None.

Chairperson's Report

Gerry shared a mailer he received from Energy Transfer that provides updated pipeline safety information. He noted several improvements from previous versions.

In April, Mary sent an email to the group regarding an article on the current natural gas shortage. She asked if there are checks in place to protect against exceeding production capabilities and causing safety issues. Gerry replied that yes, there are controls regarding pipeline throughput. The only practical way to increase throughput of an existing pipeline is to increase its operating pressure. Maximum operating pressure is a critical parameter and it is stated in the relevant permits. Thus there are safeguards in place to prevent over-pressurization.

The group discussed an incident on 05/13/2026 regarding the smell of natural gas in the Bow Tree Development. EGT issued a Constant Contact alert. PECO was working in the development and struck one of their natural gas lines. Gerry noted this work may have been related to a PECO project under way to enhance the local electric distribution system. Both of these utilities are buried in this development, often in close proximity to each other.

Old Business

Protection of Williams/Transco natural gas valve station on Paoli Pike

Derek emailed a letter to PennDOT on 05/06/2026 requesting the installation of guide railing along the roadway. PennDOT is working on the design and a cost estimate for bollards at the valve station. Ashley will follow up with Derek for a status update. The PTF would like to invite Senator Carolyn Comitta and Representative Chris Pielli to the July or September meeting. David will reach out to them.

Update on Chester County Emergency Planning – EGT Pipeline Incident Annex

Duane is working with the Chester County attorneys to redact sensitive information and then the Annex will be distributed to the PTF for review.

PTF article for next township newsletter (due 6/30/2026)

Mary and Judi are working on a draft write-up. The group agreed on a timeline to meet the deadline. [PMN: The article was submitted on 06/30/2026.]

New Business

Pennsylvania House Bill 1526 (2025-2026 session) – Degraded Natural Gas Pipeline Prevention Plans

The group discussed this bill. It is part of a safety package proposed by the Pennsylvania House following the 2023 West Reading chocolate factory explosion.

Zoning Ordinance Draft Amendment for data centers

The EGT Planning Commission is drafting a Zoning Ordinance Amendment that covers data centers. Gerry has attended relevant Planning Commission meetings. He reviewed key points in the document involving pipelines. The Planning Commission intends to send the final draft to appropriate ABCs for review.

Reports / Legislative Update

None.

Liaison Reports

Ann reported that the BOS is evaluating planners for the Comprehensive Plan Update. There will be a presentation at the next BOS meeting by PA Humanities regarding their PA Heart & Soul program. This organization works with municipalities to help collect information for their comprehensive plans by engaging the community in conversations.

Correspondence / Any Other Matter

None.

Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 10:00am.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:41am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Nowak, Assistant to the Township Manager

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