

**Delaware Riverkeeper Network ~ Berks Gas Truth
Clean Water Action (NJ) ~ Environment New Jersey
Sierra Club New Jersey**

July 29, 2016

Kimberly Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Re: Complaint filed under Docket No. CP15-558

On July 27 FERC, in response to a Docket comment “styled as a complaint under Rule 206” regarding whether PennEast’s request for a certificate of convenience and necessity is supported by substantial evidence of public benefit, will respond to the request for an evidentiary hearing on the matter in a Rule 206 forum.

FERC’s response seems to suggest that request “styled as a complaint under Rule 206” was not the proper forum or venue but that given that the original filing was done in this way FERC will respond in kind. Given the importance of FERC’s determination on this request and proper consideration of this issue, it is important to understand whether FERC deems the request to have been properly filed, in the proper format, in the proper forum and pursuant to the appropriate governing Rule. It is important that FERC not use the form of the filing as an excuse to conduct a deficient review or to evade review. Can you please provide additional response in this regard?

Furthermore, it is unclear how FERC intends to respond to the filing -- while FERC has indicated it is considering the request, it is unclear in what forum or format that consideration will be taking place or in what time frame. Will FERC be conducting an evidentiary hearing? If this is to be the format will the hearing be on the issue of whether or not to grant the request or on the issue of whether or not PennEast has provided substantial evidence of public benefit? Or will FERC be conducting its deliberations regarding the request internally among staff and issuing only a final determination? Please provide additional information and detail regarding how FERC intends to consider the request/filing.

In addition, will Delaware Riverkeeper Network, as per our July 1, 2016 submission on the docket where the original filing was placed, and other intervenors also party to the docket where this filing was submitted, be provided the opportunity to participate. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network believes that given the form, format and manner of submission of the original request that the organization’s timely request to participate, our intervenor status and the intervenor status of others mandates the ability of all our organizations to be given party status in any hearing or request for comments on this matter.

Submitted by,

Maya K. van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper on behalf of Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Karen Feridun, Founder/Executive Director on behalf of Berks Gas Truth
David Pringle, NJ Campaign Director, on behalf of Clean Water Action
Doug O’Malley, Executive Director on behalf of Environment New Jersey
Jeff Tittle, Executive Director on behalf of NJ Sierra Club