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 FEDERAL ENERGY
 REGULATORY COMMISSION

February 1, 2016

 Secretary Kimberly Bose
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
 888 First Street, NE
 Washington, DC 20426

Regarding Docket: CP15-558-00.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's royalty owners, I am writing to express our support for the PennEast Pipeline. This Project is already providing a positive economic impact that will dramatically ramp-up in the years ahead during the Project's construction and ongoing operation.

While PennEast has analyzed the economic benefits of pipeline construction, as well as the consumer energy savings thanks to an additional one billion cubic feet per day of natural gas entering the marketplace, there is another indirect economic benefit of new pipelines. That benefit is seen to royalty owners – families, farmers – who have found a new source of income in the wake of Pennsylvania's shale gas era.

New pipelines are projects where everyone wins:

- New sources of natural gas reach communities providing increased reliability;
- Additional gas supplies enable greater use of clean-burning natural gas;
- Increased use of natural gas displaces other fuels that are not as environmentally friendly;
- Tapping abundant Pennsylvania natural gas reserves ensures cost stability, especially in periods of peak electric and natural gas demand and provides a reliable source of gas not subject to outages from severe weather; and,
- New pipelines provide an outlet for mineral owners' natural gas.

The full economic potential of Pennsylvania's energy future is limited by pipeline capacity. The Appalachian region is filled with families who have benefited greatly from oil and gas royalties. Its been said that shale gas reserves have saved more family farms than any government program ever has, and I can attest to this firsthand. The PennEast Pipeline is an important Project that will serve the greater good of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the region. Why should the mid-Atlantic and northeast be reliant on natural gas from other parts of the country and foreign sources when we have the resource right underneath us?

The PennEast Project serves a direct need – transporting local gas supplies just over a hundred miles to local end users that include electric generators and local distribution systems. We encourage the Commission to conduct a thorough, timely review of the PennEast Project, enabling it to come into service as planned to start reducing energy costs.

Sincerely,

Jackie Root, President

National Association of Royalty Owners Pennsylvania Chapter

The mission of NARO is to encourage and promote exploration and production of minerals in the United States while preserving, protecting, advancing and representing the interests and rights of mineral and royalty owners through education, advocacy and assistance to our members, to NARO chapter organizations, to government bodies and to the public.

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