

ROBERT W. GODSHALL, MEMBER
150 MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
PO BOX 202053
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2053
PHONE: (717) 783-6428
FAX: (717) 787-7424

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1702 COWPATH ROAD
HATFIELD, PENNSYLVANIA 19440
PHONE: (215) 368-3500
FAX: (215) 361-4220

E-mail: rgodshal@pahousegop.com



House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, CHAIRMAN

INSURANCE
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND FINANCE

June 10, 2016

ORIGINAL

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

Re: PennEast Pipeline Project, Docket No. CP15-558-000

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SECRETARY OF THE
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REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Secretary Bose:

I have the privilege of serving one of Pennsylvania's most populated counties. With more than 800,000 residents, Montgomery County takes energy reliability and affordability very seriously. And as Chairman of Pennsylvania's House Consumer Affairs Committee, the 2013/2014 winter remains an unfortunate but vivid memory of what happens to the electric and gas markets when natural gas supplies are constrained.

That's why I'm writing you with respect to the proposed PennEast natural gas pipeline. This Project, whose route travels roughly 30 miles north of my District, will benefit all eastern Pennsylvania energy consumers by providing greater access of low priced, local natural gas to a region of high and growing demand. Adding additional supply to the system will put downward pressure on natural gas prices, meaning consumers win through greater competition.

From gas to water to electric infrastructure and beyond, new and modern infrastructure is vital to ensuring economic growth. To that end, the PennEast Pipeline Project is the type of natural gas infrastructure the region should be pursuing. This just over a hundred-mile Project will bring abundant, local gas reserves to an area that needs additional supplies. Not only will affordable and reliable supplies ensure business continuity, but PennEast's additional capacity will support economic development to attract energy-intensive businesses to the region. The pipeline is also close to my district which means many of my constituents will have construction and related job opportunities if the project is approved.

In Harrisburg we've been taking incremental steps over the years to ensure we get Pennsylvania's natural gas opportunity right. As the commonwealth has matured to the country's second-highest gas producing state, our efforts include a Marcellus Shale Advisory Commission, a Pipeline Task Force, enacting an "impact fee," and vetting numerous pieces of legislation to balance environmental protection with economic development. With that, it's time for a Project like PennEast to be built to leverage our unique natural gas position. Just as the commonwealth has balanced its approach to the natural gas

industry at-large, this Project can be safely built to minimize environmental impacts and maximize economic benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert W. Godshall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Robert W. Godshall
53rd Legislative District
Montgomery County

RWG/es

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