



# Uwchlan Township

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August 14, 2020

The Honorable Thomas W. Wolf  
Governor of Pennsylvania  
508 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Mariner East 2/2X Permits

Dear Governor Wolf:

On behalf of the Uwchlan Township Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express our concerns about the recent incidents regarding the Mariner East 2/2x pipeline project being constructed by Energy Transfer Partners (ETP).

As you know, the Mariner East 2/2X pipeline project runs directly through Uwchlan Township, Chester County, including through high-density residential areas. We have been subjected to 3 years of ETP imposing this massive construction project through our parks, businesses, and backyards. We have experienced noise violations, drilling fluid spills (aka, inadvertent returns), spoiled wells, air pollution from diesel engines that drifts into homes, and other harms that have affected the health, safety, and well-being of our community.

By no means has this experience been unique to our township. The August 10th discharge of drilling fluid containing bentonite clay into Marsh Creek Lake in Upper Uwchlan Township and the likely inadvertent return on Shoen Road in West Whiteland Township are only the most recent and most public of many incidents since the beginning of this project. It is no longer credible to believe that ETP was not or could not have been aware of the expected frequency and severity of drilling spills, nor could they have been unaware of the true duration and local impact of this project, which was originally portrayed to many residents as a matter of weeks or months.

We believe the evidence is now overwhelming that ETP is incapable of constructing its Mariner East 2/2X pipelines in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. Municipalities have not been empowered with regulatory authority over pipeline siting, construction, and operations. Therefore, we urgently appeal to the state government and relevant regulatory agencies to revoke all permits that have been granted to Energy Transfer Partners for the construction of the ME2/2X pipeline projects in this region.

In addition, we call on you to advocate for the creation of a comprehensive and rigorous regulatory framework for future pipeline projects in Pennsylvania, which should include but not limited to:

- a re-evaluation of the use of Public Utility status by private companies extracting product for commercial use;
- empowering municipalities and local authorities with the ability regulate the siting of new pipelines;
- limitations on the scale and duration of construction projects within permanent easements in residential areas;
- Restriction on natural gas liquids and similarly dangerous products from being transported through high-impact areas.

Notwithstanding the above, the Uwchlan Township Board of Supervisors believes Pennsylvania's reliance on fracking specifically and the fossil fuel industry generally is a grave mistake given what is now known about the risks of climate change, as well as what we know about the local and regional impacts from the industry. We call on you and the state legislature to develop a strategic plan to ban fracking and to reduce and eventually eliminate the extraction and use of all fossil fuels in Pennsylvania. This plan should recognize the impact of such a shift on workers so that a new and vibrant economic pathway is provided for all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bill Miller".

Bill Miller

Chairperson

Uwchlan Township Board of Supervisors

Cc:

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Representative Danielle Otten

Senator Katie Muth