

STATEMENT OF PAMELA BISHOP
Concerning Williams/Transco's Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project
Permit Applications for 25 PA Code Chapters 102 & 105 Permits
Public Hearing of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
June 14, 2017
Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA

My name is Pamela Bishop and I live in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, PA.

Lebanon County sits in the cross-hairs of two monster pipeline projects. One is Transco's proposed north-south Atlantic Sunrise pipeline and the other is Sunoco's west-east Mariner East pipeline project. The Mariner East project actually involves one existing and two more under-construction pipelines. These four pipelines will cross in South Annville Township, and also will directly impact landowners in South Londonderry Township, Lebanon County.

My first concern is that the Department of Environmental Protection has not adequately addressed the cumulative impacts of both pipeline projects on the environment when the agency considered the permit applications for waterways and wetlands crossings and earth disturbance for these huge pipeline projects. It's not only the impact from one pipeline that should be considered. But DEP should weigh the impacts of dozens of existing and planned pipelines, compressor stations, valve stations, export terminals, processing plants and the hundreds of gas wells drilled to supply them. We've already experienced polluted wells and waterways, worsening air quality, fragmentation of forests, loss of precious farm land and living under the threat of disastrous explosions.

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. The Department of Environmental Protection has a Constitutional duty as Trustee to conserve and maintain Pennsylvania's public natural resources for the benefit of all people, including generations yet to come.

In its permit applications, Transco failed to quantify the impacts of other projects in the vicinity of the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline and failed to describe how the cumulative impacts will be ameliorated. DEP cannot adequately address these issues when the applications are incomplete.

My second concern is that Transco has not adequately responded to the Department's nine deficiency letters for each permit application. The Environmental Protection Agency pointed out in its comments to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission the lack of information which impedes an adequate evaluation of the project and jeopardizes a fully informed decision.

For these reasons, I urge the Department to DENY the permits requested for the Atlantic Sunrise.

