

10 October 2022

To: PA DEP via e-mail at RA-EPREGIONALPERMIT@pa.gov.

From: RG Banach, Po Bx 352 Matamoras, PA 18336

Reference: Comments on Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Co. LLC proposed 36" Natural Gas Line in Luzerne and Monroe counties Pa. "Regional Energy Access Expansion Project"

I am commenting on the installation of the proposed pipeline as described in a "Pocono Record" article dated Monday the third of October 2022. First and foremost, we do need this expansion of the natural gas line in PA to support the growth and conversion to this cleaner form of energy. I encourage the DEP and gas company to open cut as much of the pipeline installation as possible. It has been proven since the early 1900's that open cut installations are faster and the impact is very temporary allowing mother nature to reestablish natural growth of the ROW corridor. Open cut of wetlands, streams, and rivers also fall under the same historical proof that the very temporary impact is minimal. The use of HDD or bore methods on this type of work in the past few years has shown to have a greater impact, because the PA DEP still classifies the bentonite used in drill mud as a hazardous material. Even though the bentonite is commonly used in cosmetic products, water drinking wells, ponds, etc..

I encourage the DEP to work swiftly with the Gas Company on permitting the project via the 102/105 permit process and not listen to the various people claiming that pipelines have everlasting environmental impacts. A 20 to 30 house land development currently being placed by our natural resources has the lasting impact on the foot print of the land. A single snow storm also places more destructive chemicals into the environment than any linear pipeline work which is normally restored before growing season ends back to a grassy corridor.

Thank you

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