

International Brotherhood of
BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS

SUBORDINATE LODGE NO. 13

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Chapter 102 Permit No. ESG0100015001
Chapter 105 Permit No. E15-862

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
Southeast Region
Waterways and Wetlands Program
2 Main St.
Norristown, PA 19401

Dear DEP:

The Mariner East pipeline network provides affordable energy to Pennsylvanians while employing local labor unions --- two major economic success stories for our Commonwealth. The success of this project is vital to Pennsylvania's economy and its residents. Energy infrastructure along with the abundance of natural resources in the shale region have already had a significant impact on the state. However, approval of modifications to DEP's permits for this project will allow construction on the pipeline to finally finish in the most environmentally safe manner based on real-time realities.

Pennsylvania's shale region contains a vast amount of energy resources that the state has been using to supply almost half of its residents with energy. Homegrown energy resources that use pipeline transportation allow for cheaper energy costs, while also employing local workers. Pipeline transportation is also four times safer than transportation by truck or rail. Continued investment in Pennsylvania's energy industry is what made the state one of the industry's top producers and will continue to help the state's economy grow.

As someone whose members are employed by aspects of this project, I can attest to the developer's dedication to not only hiring locally and but to its attention to regulatory measures. Mariner East has gone above and beyond to ensure construction and functionality of the pipeline are safe and up to code. The project has jumped through many regulatory hoops and has been approved by the courts at every juncture.

However, to take that commitment to the next level and get the project completed, approval of the modifications to the construction method is necessary. This approval will allow the project to ensure environmental impact from pipeline construction is as minimal as possible. Natural gas is already the cleanest fossil fuel available, but these modifications are crucial due to new realities in the field. I urge you to approve them and enable the continued success of Pennsylvania's energy infrastructure.

Sincerely,

John D. Bland
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 13