



# LOCAL 66

Operating Engineers  
66-A, B, C, D, O, and R

March 10, 2022

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

## **Re: DEP Chapter 102 Permit Amendment**

To Whom It May Concern:

The International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 66 represent more than 7,500 heavy equipment operators and mechanics in the construction industry. Our union works to ensure our members receive living wages through stable and innovative projects. The Mariner East pipeline network has enabled us to do just that. Mariner East has provided more than 9,000 jobs for highly skilled workers so far, and the recent completion of Mariner East 2 means additional job and economic opportunities are on the horizon as new markets open.

The developer of Mariner East recently requested a permit amendment to facilitation the cleanup of a previously reported inadvertent return (IR) of drilling fluid in Chester County. The work plan goes beyond the scope of what typically would be required for an incident like this, including dredging an area of Marsh Lake, dewatering and disposing of sediment, and restoring the area fully once restoration work is completed. Providing the developer with proper site access by granting the request for additional acreage to do the job ensures the work will get done safely, efficiently and quickly, which will benefit the communities in the area and fully reopen the Marsh Creek Lake area to residents.

All of the work here will be temporary, but many of the benefits will be lasting. Additional improvements include enhanced water quality and increased water depth in the lake, as well as removal of sediment in the area left over from projects unrelated to Mariner East 2, and improved habitat in and around the lake area.

For these reasons, on behalf of IUOE Local 66, I urge the state Department of Environmental Protection to approve the major permit amendment request from Sunoco Pipeline LP for work

near Marsh Creek Lake in Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County. With construction of the pipeline finished, restoration work must be the focus, and this project gets the job done at this site in the best way possible. Thank you.

SINCERELY,

*Tom Melisko*

**Tom Melisko**, Business Manager  
IUOE Local 66