

BUILDING OUR FUTURE TOGETHER.

March 9, 2022

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

Re: Mariner East - DEP Chapter 102 Permit Amendment

To the Attention of the DEP's Permit Review Team:

The Mon Valley Alliance has been following closely the construction of the cross-state Mariner East pipeline network because of the direct and indirect benefits it promises for our region specifically and the commonwealth generally. The pipeline runs through the Mon Valley on its west-to-east path across Pennsylvania.

In May 2021, our organization submitted comments to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to support modified construction in the Marsh Creek area, which was one of the last remaining places that still required work. DEP approved the modified permit and the final phase of construction on the pipeline recently finished.

Mariner East provides access to markets for drillers in western Pennsylvania and creates multiple opportunities for businesses and consumers along the route. With construction complete and the pipeline nearly fully operational, the focus now is on restoration of all impacted areas.

On behalf of the Mon Valley Alliance, we urge DEP to approve the major permit amendment request from the pipeline developer for restoration work near Marsh Creek Lake in Upper Uwchlan Township, Chester County.

The developer is simply asking to increase the limit of earth disturbance by 4.06 acres to temporarily store dredged material and dewater the sediment for removal. This project will have the added benefit of increasing water depth in this area of the lake and increasing reservoir storage capacity. Upon completion of the project, all areas will be restored, and additional habitat work will be performed, allowing for considerable environmental improvements over existing conditions.



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There is more to pipeline construction than simply installation. Restoration of all impacted areas is critical, and it is part of the reason why pipelines are seen as bringing enormous economic benefits with minimal environmental impacts when fully completed.

For these reasons, the Mon Valley Alliance urges DEP to approve the major permit amendment request for the Marsh Creek restoration work. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ben Brown CEO Mon Valley Alliance