

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

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

To whom it may concern;

A little more than five years ago, I was elected Sewickley Township Supervisor and have worked each day with the goals of, “Revitalize, Invigorate and Renew” as my mantra. I stand here today pressing towards those same promising pillars. It is for this reason that I implore the DEP to accept the revised construction plans of the Mariner East Pipeline proposed by Energy Transfer.

As an engaged, serving member in Municipal Government in Westmoreland County and, for that matter, the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who seeks to promote economic development and prosperity persistently, I wholeheartedly endorse the Mariner East pipeline. It is with full confidence that I can say that Mariner East is an immense asset to our county and state. Coming out of a COVID-stricken valley, pipelines like the Mariner East serve as beacons that are pushing to revitalize, invigorate, and renew our economy.

As the facts support, both the economic and environmental benefit this pipeline brings to the table is undeniable. In construction alone, the pipeline has produced approximately \$9.1 billion into our economy; you can only imagine the exponential growth this number will sustain once the pipeline is completed. Moreover, through reputable studies, we know that transport by truck and train is far more susceptible to accidents and crises than energy transport through pipelines. The Mariner East Pipeline is the economic, environmentally-conscious, affordable, reliable energy conduit that Pennsylvania needs now more than ever.

Pennsylvania is currently the second largest natural gas producer in the country, but our pipeline infrastructure network must be improved to help support this industry. My constituents and our neighbors see firsthand the benefits this industry is providing the commonwealth, but the economic benefits can only be realized through the development of pipelines like Mariner to get these products from production to the end-user. Pipelines are safer than alternative forms of transport, not to mention the fact they are more environmentally beneficial.

The application for modification to the construction method at this location in Chester County has been made to ensure the safety of the local environment. No large infrastructure project is ever pretty. Many take longer to build than originally proposed and they are a nuisance to local residents. Mariner East is no different. What is important however, is the commitment that

Sunoco and Energy Transfer have made to Pennsylvania and the proposed modification before you is proof that they intend to remain being a good neighbor.

Please approve the Chapter 102 and 105 permits before you so that we can complete this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian J. Merdian'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'B' and 'M'.

*Brian J. Merdian, Sewickley Township Supervisor, Vice-Chairman
Westmoreland County, PA*