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Senate of Pennsylvania

May 11, 2018

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West Chester

Mr. Dominic Rocco, PE
Regional Manager; Waterways and Wetlands
Southeast Regional Office
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection
2 East Main Street
Norristown, Pennsylvania 19401

Dear Mr. Rocco,

Please accept the following comments in response to the major modification permit request submitted by Sunoco Pipeline, L.P. for DEP Permit number E15-862, HDD Reference number S3-0370, PA-CH-0212.0000.

In general, I found the proposals presented by Sunoco related to the modification of construction activities in West Whiteland Township concerning. It is apparent that while the Department outlined direct requirements meant to ensure environmental and public safety, both during and following construction activities, Sunoco is once again simply ignoring such requirements and providing excuses as to why such efforts are not needed. Perhaps the most concerning aspect of Sunoco's relates to their argumentative denial of the need for additional geophysical studies in West Whiteland. This attempt to circumvent additional investigation regarding the sensitive geology of this region runs directly counter to common sense and ignores specific recommendations by their own professional geologists. By simply explaining away the need for precautionary studies based on the change from HDD to FlexBore (a.k.a. HDD Lite) is potentially dangerous and could easily result in future damage to environmental conditions and put the public at considerable risk.

While Sunoco has gone through the motions of reevaluation, it is clear that the information provided is insufficient. It is my strong recommendation that the Department reject this report as inadequate and require Sunoco to perform complete geophysical evaluations to ensure construction activities do not cause permanent and irreparable harm to the environment and citizens in West Whiteland Township.

Sincerely,

Andrew E. Dinniman
State Senator – 19th District