

Statement to Governor Wolf by

State Rep. Carolyn Comitta, D-Chester
www.pahouse.com/Comitta

State Rep. Kristine Howard, D-Chester
www.pahouse.com/Howard

State Rep. Christina Sappey, D-Chester
www.pahouse.com/Sappey

State Rep. Danielle Friel Otten, D-Chester
www.pahouse.com/Otten

State Rep. Leanne Krueger, D-Delaware
www.pahouse.com/Krueger

State Rep. Melissa Shusterman,
D-Chester/Montgomery
www.pahouse.com/Shusterman

It is important that we work every day to balance the need to invest in infrastructure to support jobs and economic growth in Pennsylvania while protecting the constitutional rights of all Pennsylvanians. Pennsylvanians have the right to clean air, pure water, and the preservation of natural resources, and the health, safety, and welfare of Pennsylvanians must come first.

If we are going to expand our pipeline network in Pennsylvania, we have to do it right. For that reason, we are calling on our State Agencies—PUC, PEMA, and the DEP—to do everything in their power to work together to shut down rogue operators, who are risking the lives of families across Pennsylvania with reckless siting, irresponsible workarounds, experimental operations, and overall lack of due diligence to protect the people who are impacted by their work. This is not how we strive to do business in Pennsylvania.

Mariner East has racked up more than 80 violations of state issued permits, is facing two probable federal violations, and has already paid nearly \$13 million in fines. In response, we are urging the PUC Commissioners to follow the recommendation of their own Bureau of Investigation and Enforcement to require a “remaining life study” and “plan to retire” for Mariner East 1 to be completed and reviewed by independent experts before considering approval to resume operation.

We urge the PUC to keep the Mariner East 1 pipeline shut down until an effective, complete, and comprehensive communication plan for incidents and emergencies has been established through PEMA with all county and municipal agencies responsible for public safety along the Mariner East Project.

In addition, we look forward to collaborating to establish a comprehensive legislative package that will:

- Establish a statutory mandate for pipeline siting, communication, and safety through an existing or newly established state agency
- Remove information barriers that prevent the sharing of critical information to ensure proper public safety planning
- Hold land agents accountable to conduct business in a truthful and transparent manner
- Protect Private Property Rights for all Pennsylvanians
- Establish proper regulations for Natural Gas Liquids pipelines where there is an absence

We will be working toward a budget that properly funds the agencies charged with protecting the environment and the public good.

Pennsylvania’s success is built on the shared values of our stakeholders – community, corporate and government, to protect and serve the people of our Commonwealth. That starts and ends with ensuring public safety at every level.