

International Union of Operating Engineers

LOCALS 542, 542-RA, 542-C, 542-D

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February 15, 2016

Secretary Kimberly Bose

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 First Street ,NE

Washington, DC 20426

Docket: CP15-558-000

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SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION
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FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Dear Secretary Bose:

I write to you today, representing over 6000 members of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 542, in support of the PennEast Pipeline Project. For more than 80 years Local 542 has represented the interests of hard working men and women in eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware. During this time we've seen the region's energy supply fluctuate between abundant and scarcity. However, with the advent of new natural gas extraction technology, today the the Appalachian Basin is home to one of the world's richest supplies of natural gas. In short the previous decades' energy fluctuation curve is a thing of the past.

To help bring abundant natural gas supplies to market, pipelines are the quintessential need. And there are no better men and women suited to safely construct these projects than our local , highly skilled members.

Please know, we live and work within the communities through which the pipeline will travel, and the health and safety of our families and friends is of utmost importance. We share PennEast's commitment to safety.

The PennEast Pipeline will expand the availability of affordable natural gas to underserved areas, enhance reliability and support numerous economic benefits, including thousands of jobs during construction.

These jobs are well paying, and building the PennEast Pipeline alongside past and future construction projects is what builds careers.

Additionally, the long-term economic impacts are the true benefits for the entire region. These benefits will be experienced long after the completion of the pipeline. Having access to this affordable energy and reducing energy bills for families and businesses increases disposable income that will be reinvested in numerous ways.

And for economic development, availability of affordable energy is one of the deciding factors in the siting of businesses. The price of energy plays a major in operating costs, and businesses' ability to invest and grow.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that you approve the PennEast Pipeline and support economic growth of our region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Gillette". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Edward Gillette

Pipeline Director Local 542

Document Content(s)

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