



July 30, 2015

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SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION

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Secretary Kimberly D. Bose  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20426

FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

**Re: PennEast Pipeline Project, Docket No. PF15-1-000**

Secretary Bose;

On behalf of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC), whose mission is to market the economic assets of the Lehigh Valley and to serve as a regional shared services and resource center to help businesses to come, grow and start in the region, I am writing to convey LVEDC's support for the proposed Penn East Pipeline project.

We work every day with companies entering the Lehigh Valley market or looking to find ways to be more competitive and to expand on site. The availability and affordability of natural gas as a source of energy is a critical cornerstone of the economic growth foundation. The proposed 114 mile pipeline will be a critical piece of the region's energy infrastructure. LVEDC realizes that good infrastructure: rails, highways and pipelines is vital to economic growth and job creation. Infrastructure construction also generates significant direct economic activities. The Penn East Pipeline is estimated to generate about \$1.4 billion in investment in the Lehigh Valley region, creating about 12,160 jobs during the project. It is expected that half of those jobs will employ Lehigh Valley workers.

Even more importantly, the Penn East Pipeline would improve the diversity of energy resources in the region, providing clean, abundant and low cost natural gas to major manufacturers and high energy users along the pipeline route. It will also provide natural gas to power plants in the PJM ISO, potentially bringing down the cost of electricity across the entire grid. Low cost energy and reasonable electric power costs are some of the key elements that companies analyze when they are making decisions to grow in or move their operations to a specific region.

For that reason, we write in support of the project. The Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corp. is a public-private coalition of large employers, key regional institutions and county and municipal governments banded together to advance job creation and economic growth in the counties of Lehigh and Northampton in Eastern Pennsylvania. On behalf of our Board of Directors, I write to express LVEDC's support for the proposed Penn East Pipeline Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don Cunningham", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Don Cunningham  
President and CEO

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