



MORRIS COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

October 27, 2015

ORIGINAL

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

FILED
SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION

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FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: Proposed PennEast Pipeline, Docket No. CP15-558-000

Dear Secretary Bose:

Whenever a business can have more stability in their bottom lines *and* lower their costs at the same time, it's a win-win. For that reason, the Morris County Chamber of Commerce is proud to lend its support to the \$1.6 billion PennEast Pipeline project, a 118-mile underground natural gas infrastructure project that can lower energy costs, create thousands of jobs, and make our environment cleaner with American-produced natural gas.

The Morris Chamber serves the business community of northern New Jersey as a dynamic, member-involved organization that seeks to encourage opportunities for our members to develop, promote and pursue their business interests, foster a healthy economic and political business environment and promote the benefits of business to the public. Our membership consists of 880 businesses that represent an employee base of over 100,000. In addition to its premier businesses, Morris County is rich in history, culture, natural landscape and global commerce.

In Morris County, we enjoy a heavy concentration of pharmaceutical, medical device, and bio-technology firms, and these businesses require large amounts of energy to fuel their manufacturing and research & development operations. Therefore, reliable and affordable energy are crucial to the ongoing growth and success of these enterprises.

Long-term investment in infrastructure projects like PennEast ensures the energy needs of our region are met for years to come, keeping good jobs in New Jersey, and making our business climate more competitive for those looking to locate here, expand their operations and create new jobs.

With four major New Jersey energy delivery companies signing on with long-term capacity contracts years before it is even built, including PSE&G, New Jersey Natural Gas and Elizabethtown Gas, it is clear that we face a growing demand for natural gas in the New Jersey marketplace. *The ability to access* this abundant supply just 150 miles from New Jersey's border is a game-changer for New Jersey's economy. Because pipelines are the safest mode of energy transportation, it's an obvious choice to approve and construct the PennEast Pipeline to get this critical energy supply to local markets.

Among the benefits for New Jersey are \$430 million in economic output, \$200 million in labor income supported, and 2,870 direct and indirect jobs, according to a recent independent study by EConsult Solutions. We know from a variety of studies that consumers could have realized millions in energy savings in recent years had the pipeline been operational.

Please help to keep New Jersey's economy moving forward by endorsing and approving this project as quickly as possible.

The Morris County Chamber of Commerce appreciates the opportunity to add its voice to the robust list of New Jersey business and advocacy organizations supporting PennEast's application.

Sincerely,

Paul Boudreau
President