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THE STATE CHAMBER

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SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION

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FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

October 20, 2015

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

ORIGINAL

Re: Proposed PennEast Pipeline, Docket No. CP15-538-000

Dear Secretary Bose:

For over 104 years, the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce has served with distinction as the independent voice of business in New Jersey. With a broad based membership ranging from the Fortune 500 companies to small proprietorships, representing every corner of the state and every industry, our members provide jobs for over a million people in New Jersey. We continue to work towards streamlining the regulatory process while striving to maintain the economic vitality of our members.

With that in mind, I am writing to reiterate the State Chamber's support of the proposed PennEast Pipeline. This project will provide a significant regional benefit to businesses and citizens, assist in boosting New Jersey's economy, and improve the overall critical energy infrastructure. Though New Jersey produces no natural gas of its own, our state's businesses and residents depend daily on this important energy resource.

Domestically sourced natural gas is by far this state's leading fuel source, surpassing both gasoline and nuclear energy. Natural gas keeps our state moving forward, cleanly and affordably, and New Jersey must continue to cultivate a natural-gas friendly environment. Our state has robust, energy-intensive chemical manufacturing and petroleum refining industries, yet boasts an energy consumption rate below the national average.

In fact, New Jersey is in the top 20 percent in the nation when it comes to overall energy efficiency – thanks to our significant reliance on clean-burning natural gas. Natural gas usage is clearly important to New Jersey's business environment, our economy, our residents and our ability to meet our increasingly high energy demands while decreasing air pollution via reduced carbon emissions.

PennEast will deliver on their promise to improve our state's access to a clean and reliable gas supply. We also feel confident that PennEast will select the most appropriate and less-intrusive route for this important underground pipeline, upholding the highest standards of environmental protection in the process.

Thank you for allowing the State Chamber to voice our views on this important project. We hope the Commission will move forward quickly with approval of PennEast's application.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL A. EGENTON
Senior Vice President