

## **For Immediate Release**

**March 2, 2015**

### **Contacts:**

**Leah Zerbe, Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness, 267-566-3377**

**Deirdre Lally, Clean Air Council, 570-854-2288**

**Lynda Farrell, Pipeline Safety Coalition, 484- 340-0648**

**Faith Zerbe, Delaware Riverkeeper Network, 610-291-1403**

## **Schuylkill County Officials Raise Major Concerns About High Pressure Gas Pipeline**

Pine Grove and Eldred Townships have gone on record with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with some of their serious concerns about the proposed 42-inch high pressure gas pipeline called the Atlantic Sunrise. Download the township's letters at this link or see attached:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/758856534157741/files/>.

According to Transco, a subsidiary of Williams Partners L.P. Resource Reports, the high pressure 42 inch gas line would cut a new 100 foot right of way (ROW) spanning 178.8 miles in PA; and of that portion in PA, the Central Penn Line (CPL) South segment would cut through 5 townships in Schuylkill County spanning 121.62 miles. Pine Grove Township would be the hardest hit with 6.09 miles cutting through it - Eldred at 3.52 miles, Hegins at 3.76 miles, Tremont at 2.54 miles, and Frailey at 1.74 miles. According to the Resource Reports, the CPL South Line of Atlantic Sunrise would impact 2,206.21 acres of land during construction and 736.30 acres permanently. The CPL South route has double the entire land acreage construction and over double the permanent impacts compared to the total of the other 3 proposed pipeline segments of the project (1,122 acres for the others). The CPL South pipeline segment would cut through 165 waterbodies, and cut through 4.55 miles of flood hazard areas.

“If we are not willing to compromise the integrity of our land for our own personal gain, why would we allow someone else do it for theirs?” – **Tracey Ditzler, Pine Grove Township farmer and landowner.**

“Pine Grove and Eldred Townships join many other townships and communities along the proposed pipeline path in opposition during the early pre-filing stages of the pipeline process – which still has a long road ahead of it. The pipeline operator Williams has not yet applied for permission to proceed on this project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), so no permits or approvals have been issued in this early stage,” said Deirdre Lally, Clean Air Council. “Annville, Martic, Dallas Townships, and others have already passed resolutions opposing the Atlantic Sunrise pipeline, and countless communities along the 178-mile path are organizing to make sure their concerns are addressed. FERC has received over 6,000 comments opposing this pipeline so far.” – **Deirdre Lally, Columbia County Landowner, Clean Air Council.**

“A growing concern in pipeline siting is safety. Williams is required to provide FERC with the Potential Impact Radius (PIR) of this pipeline because PIR is the calculated danger zone for death and destruction if a pipeline fails. Each and every landowner has the right to require written notice of the PIR of this pipeline now, before the project goes any further, as it affects safety by proximity to homes, churches, schools, community centers and environmentally sensitive areas. Using the PIR calculation, the Potential Impact Radius of the

Atlantic Sunrise is 1,115 feet from center of the pipeline. The Potential Impact Radius of pipelines has been known to be a miscalculation, as in San Bruno, California when a 30 inch pipeline exploded with a PIR of about 400 ft. that was actually a radius of 1,024ft.” – **Lynda Farrell, Pipeline Safety Coalition.**

"*The true foundation of republican government is the equal right of every citizen in his person and property and in their management.*" said Thomas Jefferson to Samuel Kercheval in 1816. Property rights are foundational to any free society. The Williams Company would like to strip me of my property rights with the help of our own Federal Government. According to the American Constitution, Eminent Domain is to be used only to benefit the public at large, not to enrich a narrow segment of business owners. I am an American Against Eminent Domain Abuse and I consider the taking of private property, against the will of the owner, to facilitate the building of the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline project to be an abuse of Federal powers.” – **Tim Gross, Conestoga Township Landowner, An American Against Eminent Domain Abuse.**

“No pipeline path is a good path as it leads to more gas drilling and harm to Pennsylvania families and the climate. The PA DEP has documented over 243 water supply contamination cases due to slickwater hydraulic fracturing; this is an unacceptable health and environmental risk, as indicated by New York who passed a permanent ban on Marcellus shale drilling in the state to protect NY residents. Meanwhile by allowing corporations to build more pipelines, Pennsylvania is falling behind in existing ailing infrastructure repairs and missing the real opportunity of creating sustainable energy jobs that would outlast the boom and bust of another harmful and dying fossil fuel era. - **Faith Zerbe, Delaware Riverkeeper Network**

Want to learn more about what local residents are doing to oppose the pipeline? Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness invites concerned landowners along the entire pipeline route to an upcoming landowner meeting to be held in Bloomsburg PA on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. For more details about the meeting contact: 570-204-8927 or [info@shalefieldorganizing.org](mailto:info@shalefieldorganizing.org). SPA will also be hosting an organizing conference call about the pipeline and planned efforts for the spring on March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. If you'd like to call in to be part of the one-hour call, ask questions, and hear what neighbors are doing, contact 610-291-1403 or email [schuylkillconcernedresidents@gmail.com](mailto:schuylkillconcernedresidents@gmail.com).

Schuylkill Pipeline Awareness is online at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/758856534157741/> or [schuylkillconcernedresidents@gmail.com](mailto:schuylkillconcernedresidents@gmail.com)

*2 letter attachments follow*

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PF 14-8

**PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP**  
**175 OAK GROVE ROAD, PINE GROVE, PA 17963**

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E-MAIL: [pgtown@comcast.net](mailto:pgtown@comcast.net)  
WEBSITE: [www.pinegrovetownship.com](http://www.pinegrovetownship.com)

Supervisors: Diane D. Tobin (Chairwoman), Bruce Kosack (Vice-Chairman), Jeffery Zimmerman

VIA Certified Mail: 7010 1870 0003 5783 6202

February 18, 2015

ORIGINAL

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

FILED  
SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION  
2015 FEB 23 P 1:13  
FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

**RE: Atlantic Sunrise Project  
Pine Grove Township  
Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Williams Companies, Inc. plans to construct a 178 mile, 42-inch diameter pipeline from Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania ("Atlantic Sunrise Project").

The Atlantic Sunrise Project is planned to transport approximately 1,700,000 dekatherms of natural gas per day. The project is planned to be operational in the second half of 2017.

On July 18, 2014, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") issued a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Atlantic Sunrise Project under the National Environmental Policy Act ("NEPA") pre-filing process.

The Williams Companies, Inc. intends to file a formal application with FERC in the Spring of 2015. The pre-filing process and the formal application process both provide opportunities for public input and intervention.

Over the last several months, interested Pine Grove Township residents have regularly attended the Supervisors monthly meetings and voiced numerous and serious concerns relative to the proposed project.

These Pine Grove Township residents are concerned that the Atlantic Sunrise Project may have a negative effect on property values; Pine Grove Township's environment; and the public health, safety and welfare of Pine Grove Township residents.



The Atlantic Sunrise Project is planned to cross lands in Pine Grove Township that may be environmentally sensitive; lands that may be preserved by the expenditure of public funds for the exclusive use of agriculture; and lands that may be preserved by the expenditure of public funds for the use, enjoyment and permanent protection of open space.

The Atlantic Sunrise Project may cause irreparable damage to these properties.

The Board of Supervisors of Pine Grove Township, Pennsylvania, on behalf of its aggrieved residents, wishes to place FERC on formal notice of these concerns and would expect those aggrieved property owners to participate and intervene in the regulatory process as necessary to protect their interests and to oppose the construction of the Atlantic Sunrise Project Pipeline within the Township.

PINE GROVE TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: *Diane D. Tobin*  
Diane D. Tobin, Chairwoman



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**ELDRED TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Schuylkill County  
Pitman, Pennsylvania 17964

FILED  
SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION

2015 FEB 24 A 11: 46

FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION  
February 16, 2015

ORIGINAL

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street  
NE Washington, DC 20426

Dear Secretary of the Commission:

The Supervisors of Eldred Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, as representatives of concerned citizens, would like to call the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's attention to Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project's docket number PF 14-8-000. We, the township supervisors, are requesting that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission considers moving the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project (PF 14-8-000) three and one-half miles east following the Electric Utility Right of Way on the Taylorsville Mountain.

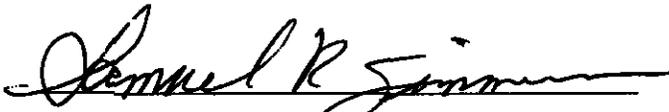
In the following list, we note numerous advantages and positive reasons for moving the location of the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline (PF 14-8-000):

1. This move would eliminate crossing five streams on the headwaters of the Mahantongo Creek, a tributary of the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay.
2. Moving the project would put the easement right of way on more public land (State Forest and State Game lands) which already have utility easements on them and have the personnel on staff to negotiate.
3. This new easement purchase would benefit all citizens of the Commonwealth.
4. The suggested move would make the pipeline accessible to a county industrial park (Schuylkill County High Ridge Industrial Park) which in the future could possibly use the natural gas from the pipeline. Making the gas available to the Industrial Park would provide gas to industry at the county level and thus would also create area jobs.
5. The new route would be much less invasive to farmland, farmsteads, and rural properties; consequently, it would eliminate the devaluation of these properties.
6. By moving the project east, it would eliminate many of the unknown consequences of a pipeline of this size to the food, water, and air quality of the environment for the people and the animals living in the area.
7. The suggested new route would only cross one highway rather than four highways that exist on the present corridor. Therefore, the suggested new route would greatly reduce the disruption of commerce and daily activity of this agricultural and small family business community being affected by the pipeline.
8. Moving the project 3.5 miles east following the Electric Utility Right of Way on the Taylorsville Mountain would make it easier for Williams to partner with government agencies rather than individual landowners in the remediation process of the disturbed land.

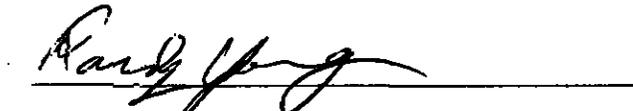
We, the Supervisors of Eldred Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, unanimously agree that the advantages presented in the previously listed reasons should be noted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as the Commission seriously considers our request to move the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project (PF 14-8-000) three and one-half miles east following the Electric Utility Right of Way on the Taylorsville Mountain.

Contact can be made to the Supervisors of Eldred Township, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, concerning the Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Project's docket number PF 14-8-000 through mail using the address for Daniel Dietrich, 1399 Creek Road, Pitman, Pennsylvania 17964, or through e-mail by using [beckydan@wildblue.net](mailto:beckydan@wildblue.net).

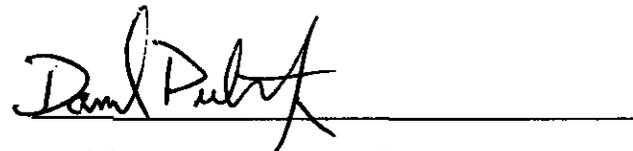
Sincerely,



Samuel Zimmerman, President



Randy Young, Vice President



Daniel Dietrich, Secretary/Treasurer

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