



For Immediate Release

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New Report Details Extreme Environmental and Economic Impact of PennEast Pipeline *Independent Analysis Documents Key Costs FERC Ignored*

Bristol, PA: The Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) and Key-Log Economics today released a new report, documenting billions of dollars in economic and environmental costs should the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approve the PennEast pipeline. These costs, which include everything from reductions in local property values to the loss of ecosystem services, have largely been ignored by FERC, which filed an inaccurate and misleading Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the project in July, 2016. Today's report, which puts estimated one-time costs plus the discounted value of all future annual costs between \$13.3 and \$56.6 billion, makes clear that the PennEast pipeline will cause irreparable harm to the residents, businesses, and institutions of the region, far exceeding any documented benefits. The report can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/EconomicCostsOfPennEast>

"Despite clear obligations under federal law, FERC has continued to fail those it represents by ignoring the vast and extreme destruction the PennEast pipeline will cause to local communities and residents," said **Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper** and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN). "Today's analysis clearly demonstrates that should FERC further pursue this pipeline, they will be doing so on behalf of fossil fuel companies, and betraying the public they are meant to serve. Sadly, the failings documented in this report are being repeated by FERC in pipeline projects it is advancing across the nation."

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FERC must consider environmental effects, as well as the economic impact, of proposed projects during its review process. But as issued, the DEIS of PennEast ignored the thousands of comments entered onto the project's docket during the intervention and scoping phases last year. Despite detailed comments from experts on subjects ranging from environmental science to economics, FERC asserted the environmental impacts would be manageable. Today's analysis identifies this determination as at best unrealistic and at worst

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deliberately inaccurate. FERC's failure to consider this new report would continue the egregious neglect that has plagued the agency's review process for decades.

On January 26, at 6:30 pm, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and Key-Log Economics will host a media webinar to discuss this exclusive new report. The webinar will closely detail the extraordinary costs FERC is ignoring and will offer guidance for community activists protesting the PennEast pipeline. Register to join the webinar at:

https://delawariverkeepernetwork.clickmeeting.com/economic-costs-of-the-penneast-pipeline-ferc-s-failure-to-consider/register?_ga=1.91762969.2090087408.1466634722

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[Delaware Riverkeeper Network \(DRN\)](#) is a nonprofit membership organization working throughout the 4 states of the Delaware River Watershed including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and New York. DRN provides effective environmental advocacy, volunteer monitoring programs, stream restoration projects, public education, and legal enforcement of environmental protection laws.