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Contact:  
Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, 215-801-3043

### **Statement from the Delaware Riverkeeper Maya van Rossum on Financial Backer NJNG pulling away from PennEast Pipeline**

New Jersey Natural Gas is pulling back support for the PennEast Pipeline Project, their quarterly report shows. During a presentation on November 30, the CEO of NJR stated that spending would be minimal and throughout the presentation, the company indicated on slides that there is “No reliance on PennEast completion to achieve growth objectives.”

“The fact that one of PennEast’s largest financial backers has just announced that they are pulling back support from the PennEast Pipeline Project proves what we have been saying all along -- there is no need for this impractical, illegal, and detrimental project. After PennEast’s recent phasing of the New PennEast project, even their own investors have lost faith in the project's ability to make it through the regulatory process and legal challenges it faces. Following New Jersey’s denial of needed permits for the project, this loss of financial backing is another nail in the coffin for PennEast and a sign of hope for our river -- but it is not the end of the battle,” said **Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, and a leading opponent of the PennEast Pipeline.** “We know that FERC will do all it can to ram this project through to construction, so we need our governors and leaders at the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to finally stand up and deny a docket to this destructive project, which is clearly in violation of their own legal mandates. However, we know that is not going to happen without huge public outcry. This decision is further ignition for that action.”

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