

**November 16, 2016**

**Public Hearing:**

Joint public hearing with the Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee to review emergency preparedness & response measures for natural gas/petroleum pipeline infrastructure across PA

**Testimony Submitted by:**

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**Testimony:**

I have a BS in Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University and I am a Licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Pennsylvania. I am employed by a Consulting Engineering Firm and have been involved with the planning, permitting, design and construction of pipeline projects.

There are many environmental, health and safety requirements that are overseen by FERC, USDOT, PUC, DEP, USACOE and others. These agencies ensure that pipelines are planned, permitted, designed and constructed in a safe manner.

Before our firm is hired by a pipeline company, our firm's safety program and safety record is reviewed and, hopefully, approved by the pipeline company. I have been involved in safety program audits that have taken up to two days. There have been instances where our safety program did not contain a specific safety component and we were not approved to do work for that company.

Anytime I have been out at a site involving a pipeline, even during the planning stage, I have been required to prepare or participate in a Job Safety Analysis (JSA). A JSA looks at each basic step of the job and recommends the safest way to do the job. A JSA must be prepared each day you are on-site. Anyone involved in the pipeline industry understands that safety is a culture, not just a standard.

Besides the technical aspects of pipeline projects, I have personal experiences with pipelines. In addition to having a career as a professional engineer, I am also an avid outdoorsman that likes to hike, camp, fish and hunt. I share my knowledge of the outdoors with my four children. We spend most our free time in the outdoors. As a kid, I spent a lot of time on my family's property where we have 200 acres of woods, streams, a 17 acre lake and a few ponds.

For approximately 3,000 linear feet, the Mariner East Pipeline runs through my family's property. As far back as I can remember; probably close to 40 years, there has never been an incident from that pipeline on my family's property. I believe this speaks highly of the pipeline industry's good safety programs and operations and maintenance programs.

Two summers ago, my then seven-year-old daughter and I were up early on a Saturday morning catching some bass at the lake on the property while the Mariner East pipeline was being "upgraded". Two contractors and a landman for Sunoco Logistics showed up at their staging area about 200 yards from where we were fishing. All three gentlemen approached us to make sure they were not bothering our fishing while they were performing their work. I believe this speaks highly of Sunoco Logistics' professionalism, even down to their subcontractors.

From my experience, the pipeline industry conducts business in a safe manner with good operational and maintenance programs. They understand that safety is a culture, not just a standard.