

DELAWARE COUNTY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION 2019-06

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

WHEREAS the health, safety and welfare of the residents of Delaware County are of the utmost concern and responsibility of Delaware County Council (Council);

WHEREAS Council commissioned a risk assessment of Sunoco Pipeline's (Sunoco) proposed Mariner East 2 (ME2), highly volatile liquids (HVL) pipeline completed for Council by G2 Integrated Solutions and released publicly in November 2018, evaluated potential accident events, the consequences and likelihood of such events, and estimated risk measures;

WHEREAS it is evident to Council that a large release of HVLs in Delaware County could result in mass casualties and mass destruction of property;

WHEREAS Sunoco has reported repeated hazardous liquids pipeline accidents in Delaware County, including the most recent "subsidence" that occurred in Middletown Township on April 24, 2019;

WHEREAS Council has acted to obtain intervenor status in an action brought before the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) by seven residents of Delaware and Chester Counties;

WHEREAS, in its petition to intervene in the citizens' complaint, Council wrote "Sunoco's lack of adequate emergency planning and public awareness directly affects the ability of Delaware County to devise and implement an emergency evacuation plan...Delaware County will be irreparably harmed if Sunoco does not ensure the safety and reasonableness of facilities located within Delaware County...Delaware County has a direct and substantial interest in the instant proceeding which is not, and cannot be, adequately represented by any other party;"

WHEREAS other Delaware County political subdivisions, including Middletown, Edgmont, and Thornbury Townships, and Rose Tree Media and West Chester Area School Districts have also petitioned to intervene in the aforementioned action before the PUC;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Delaware County Council joins and supports the bipartisan calls from fourteen (14) Members of the General Assembly representing Delaware and Chester Counties, who on March 11, 2019, wrote to Governor Tom Wolf, "We respectfully reach out to you today to urge you to take action to preserve the health, welfare and safety of our constituents who live, work and raise their families in the high consequence areas of Chester and Delaware Counties within the potential impact radius of the Mariner East pipeline project."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Delaware County Council hereby calls on Governor Wolf to institute an immediate moratorium on the operation and transmission of all Sunoco current and proposed HVL pipelines in Delaware County, continuing until there is a credible and practicable public response program and emergency response plan that accounts for the unique hazards of these HVL's and the density and immobility of vulnerable populations within the impact radius.