

RESOLUTION NO. 25-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP, BUCKS COUNTY, EXPRESSING CONCERN REGARDING THE SUNOCO PIPELINE LEAK IN UPPER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP, CALLING FOR COMPREHENSIVE REMEDIATION, PREVENTATIVE MEASURES, A FULL REVIEW OF PIPELINE INTEGRITY THROUGHOUT THE REGION, AND THE IMMEDIATE SHUTDOWN OF THE SUBJECT PIPELINE UNTIL INDEPENDENT VERIFICATION OF ITS SAFETY IS COMPLETED

WHEREAS, on or about January 27, 2025, a fuel pipeline leak was reported in the Glenwood Drive neighborhood of Upper Makefield Township, involving infrastructure owned by Energy Transfer/Sunoco; and

WHEREAS, the leak has resulted in contamination of residential wells, with residents reporting water that emits a gasoline-like odor; and

WHEREAS, the proximity of the leak to Lower Makefield Township raises concerns about potential impacts on the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) are actively involved in overseeing the response and remediation efforts; and

WHEREAS, Energy Transfer has implemented a 20% pressure reduction in the affected pipeline and is conducting visual inspections at various locations to assess the integrity of the line; and

WHEREAS, the continued operation of the subject pipeline poses an unacceptable risk to public safety, and a full, independent verification of its structural integrity is necessary before its operations should be permitted to continue.

WHEREAS, the recent leak highlights the need for a comprehensive review of pipeline infrastructure in the region to prevent future incidents and protect communities from similar environmental and public health hazards; and

WHEREAS, Lower Makefield Township is committed to safeguarding the health, safety, and welfare of its residents and ensuring the protection of its natural resources; and


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Lower Makefield Township as follows:

1. Expression of Concern: The Board expresses deep concern regarding the recent fuel pipeline leak in Upper Makefield Township and the potential risks it poses to the residents of Lower Makefield Township.

2. Support for Upper Makefield Township: The Board supports the actions taken by Upper Makefield Township, including the adoption of Resolution No. 2025-02-13-01, and urges Energy Transfer to comply fully with the remediation efforts outlined therein.
3. Demand for Comprehensive Remediation: The Board insists that Energy Transfer, in coordination with DEP and PHMSA, undertake thorough remediation of the affected areas, including but not limited to:
 - Providing alternative water sources to impacted residents.
 - Installing effective filtration systems to ensure safe drinking water.
 - Conducting comprehensive soil and groundwater testing to assess contamination levels.
 - Implementing long-term monitoring to detect and address any future issues promptly.
4. Preventative Measures: The Board calls upon Energy Transfer to implement enhanced safety protocols to prevent future incidents, including regular pipeline inspections, pressure monitoring, and timely maintenance.
5. Comprehensive Review of Pipeline Integrity: The Board calls for a full and independent review of pipeline integrity throughout the region, including but not limited to:
 - A structural assessment of all existing pipelines to identify potential vulnerabilities.
 - Increased regulatory oversight to ensure compliance with safety and environmental standards.
 - Implementation of advanced leak detection technologies to provide early warnings of potential failures.
 - Transparency in reporting findings to local governments and the public.
6. Immediate Shutdown of the Subject Pipeline: The Board calls for the complete and immediate shutdown of the affected pipeline until its full integrity can be independently verified by DEP, PHMSA, and other appropriate regulatory authorities. The pipeline should remain inoperable until such verification confirms that it poses no further risk to public health, safety, or the environment.
7. Communication and Transparency: The Board requests that Energy Transfer, DEP, and PHMSA maintain open and transparent communication with Lower Makefield Township officials and residents, providing regular updates on remediation progress and any potential impacts on the township.
8. Resident Resources: Residents with questions or concerns are encouraged to contact Energy Transfer's pipeline resident hotline at 1-877-397-3383 or email uppermakefieldresponse@energytransfer.com. Additional information is available on the Lower Makefield Township website.


ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the Township of Lower Makefield this 19th day of February 2025.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF
LOWER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP**



(Vice) Chair

Attest:



Township Manager