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Senate of Pennsylvania

February 8, 2025

Acting Administrator Ben Kochman
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Sunoco Twin Oak-Newark Pipeline in Upper Makefield Township, Pennsylvania

Dear Acting Administrator Kochman,

We are writing to request the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) enforce an immediate suspension of the flow of all petroleum products in the Sunoco Twin Oak-Newark Pipeline operated by Energy Transfer crossing through Bucks County until a full investigation is completed and a clear cause for all leaks are identified and repaired.

As you know, on January 31, 2025 a leak was identified in the pipeline and an unknown quantity of product was discharged. The pipeline flow was halted while a section of pipe was replaced over the weekend. At least 6 residential wells have been confirmed contaminated with at least 100 more wells being tested in the vicinity of the Mt. Eyre neighborhood in Upper Makefield Township.

Sunoco/Energy Transfer officials indicated that the cause of the leak is under investigation without a clear date for the completion of that work.

On Sunday, February 2, 2025, without the results of that investigation or a comprehensive analysis of the integrity of the rest of the pipeline sections and without communication to the Township, or any of the impacted residents, Sunoco/Energy Transfer resumed the flow of jet fuel through the pipeline.

At a community meeting, on February 6, 2025 held at the Upper Makefield Township Building, residents shared that they had been experiencing petroleum smells and tastes in their water since September 2023.

Notwithstanding that fact Sunoco continued to claim there were no discharges.

The leak itself was only discovered when Sunoco utilized historical records to target a previously repaired section of pipe and performed an excavation of that section.

This history of Sunoco's failure to detect and manage what have likely been multiple discharges since at least 2023 erodes trust in Sunoco's current investigation.

For these reasons, as the sole government agency (federal or state) with oversight of the pipeline's operations, it's imperative that PHSMA act **immediately** to shut down the pipeline and protect residents and the environment from further dangerous petroleum contamination.

Very truly yours,



Steven J. Santarsiero
10th Senate District



Perry S. Warren, Jr.
31st House District

CC: Upper Makefield Township
Affected residents