

**MEETING ON SUNOCO/ENERGY TRANSFER PIPELINE ISSUES  
at The Crossing Church, 1895 Wrightstown Road, Washington Crossing, PA.  
March 11, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

The March 11, 2025 public meeting of the Sunoco/Energy Transfer Pipeline Issues was called to order by Chair Yvette Taylor at 7:30 p.m. In attendance were the following members of the Board of Supervisors: Chair Yvette Taylor, Vice Chair Ben Weldon, Treasurer Braun Taylor, Member Tom Cino and Member Tim Thomas. Also in attendance Township Manager David Nyman, Assistant Township Manager Judy Caporiccio, Township Solicitor Will Oetinger, Esq., Township Engineer Toby Kesser, P.G., and Planning & Zoning Director Denise Burmester. Representing the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) were Dave Brown and Pat Patterson.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Ms. Taylor led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was followed by a moment of silence. She then announced that this is an advertised meeting of the Board of Supervisors pertaining to the Sunoco pipeline leak and requested that attendees, agency representatives and those intending to speak under Public Comment sign in on the sheets provided.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPPER MAKEFIELD TOWNSHIP UPDATE**

Ms. Taylor stated that the Township continues to post information related to the Sunoco pipeline leak on the Township website, including a letter from Governor Shapiro, a letter signed jointly by Congressman Fitzpatrick and Senator Fetterman, and a letter from the Bucks County Commissioners. Information is posted regularly, and residents were encouraged to continue to check the website for updates and to sign up for Ready Bucks alerts.

Ms. Taylor then introduced the Township's Project Manager to address the Sunoco Pipeline Leak, David Fennimore, President of Earth Data Northeast, Inc. (EDN). Mr. Fennimore provided his background and experience working with DEP on Act 2 remediation projects, and relayed his intention to schedule regular virtual meetings with residents to provide a centralized information source. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 from 7 pm to 8 pm and a sign-up sheet was provided. Mr. Fennimore will review Sunoco reports and will be assisting in the development of long term potable water options.

**SUNOCO/ENERGY TRANSFER UPDATE TO THE UPPER MAKEFIELD COMMUNITY**

Joe McGinn and Matt Gordon of Sunoco/Energy Transfer provided a presentation regarding the Sunoco Pipeline Leak in the Mt. Eyre Manor neighborhood that provided communications updates, environmental updates, operational updates, community support information and next steps. Mr. McGinn shared changes in communication due to the engagement of legal representation by some residents stating that information will be available on their website, updates provided to the Township, and individual meetings scheduled for those without representation, but they will not be answering questions this evening.

Mr. Gordon addressed the DEP's Notice of Violation and Sunoco/Energy Transfer's mandated actions, provided updates on water testing, geophysical resistivity testing and soil gas evaluations, and POET system installations. Packer testing and recovery/monitoring well drilling will be scheduled during 9-5 work hours with sound barriers placed, and inline inspection tool runs will be occurring over the next several weeks.

Mr. McGinn announced that the TeleTownhall will be held on March 27, details to follow, and shared information about their website, hotline and Dolington Road Community Support Center.

**MT. EYRE NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENTS TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Dan LaHart represented the Mt. Eyre Neighborhood Residents Task Force and provided a presentation that included highlights of their concerns about the Sunoco Pipeline leak, a timeline of events, and a

breakdown of actions. He summarized that their requests are for clean water, clean soil, safe and transparent pipeline operations, shutdown of the pipeline until the investigation and remediation plan are complete, and compensation and care.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ed Louka, First Assistant to the Bucks County District Attorney, stated that the District Attorney's office has referred the Sunoco pipeline leak matter to the PA Attorney General's Office, and the Attorney General's office formally accepted and has taken jurisdiction of the matter.

Terry Deardon, 208 Bruce Road, expressed safety concerns due to the increased traffic, vehicles and road conditions.

Kimberly Smith, 102 Spencer Road, also shared concerns about safety. She then explained the everyday anxiety created by the leak and lack of information to define the extent of the leak, which has caused a lack of confidence in the operator.

Nathan Sciortino, 209 Bruce Road, raised questions about inconsistencies and protocols in sample collection methods, sample collection locations, and data analysis. He stressed the importance of continued testing of water before it enters the POET systems to determine the full extent of the leak.

Ginny Kerslake of West Whiteland Township in Chester County provided background of similar experiences with a leak in the Mariner East Pipeline, noted that the legal process will take years and stated that the pipeline should be shut down until it is fully inspected.

Senator Steve Santarsiero thanked the residents and Township for their continued efforts. He expressed that a TeleTownhall is ineffective in providing answers to residents and noted a lack of transparency from Sunoco/Energy Transfer and PHMSA in providing answers and details about the spill, particularly noting that PHMSA was not providing an update at this meeting.

Representative Perry Warren stressed the need for Sunoco/Energy Transfer to provide information to residents to assist them in making healthcare decisions, and repeated calls to shut down the pipeline.

Laura Restrepo from Senator Fetterman's office expressed thanks to the residents for providing information, encouraged residents to stay involved, and expressed the Senator's commitment to stay involved in the process.

Kyle Melander from Congressman Fitzpatrick's office provided updates of meetings held with the Task Force, correspondence sent to Sunoco/Energy Transfer and PHMSA regarding the pipeline leak and safety, and plans to speak with the House of Representatives subcommittee responsible for pipeline integrity about this specific pipeline.

### **PA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEP) UPDATE**

Dave Brown and Pat Patterson represented the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). They provided an explanation of the DEP Order, the PA Clean Streams Law, and enforcement action, noting the support of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Governor's Office; updated current DEP activities and Act 2 requirements; and reiterated that DEP holds regular calls with Sunoco and receives daily data updates from Sunoco. The DEP has also established a dedicated website for the Upper Makefield Pipeline Release. Regarding questions about MTBE, Mr. Brown said that they are no longer used in jet fuel, but the monitoring wells will help clarify the source of MTBE found in some tests. Supervisor Weldon requested that DEP forward well tests regularly to the Township.

Supervisor Thomas asked for clarification regarding the disposal of water and material removed from the recovery well, which Mr. Browns explained would be drummed and removed from the property.

### **BUCKS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Ms. Taylor noted that Brendan O'Boyle from the Bucks County Health Department was in attendance.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ellen Radow, 9 Timber Knoll Drive, said she forwarded the PHMSA Order to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, and she inquired about the impact of the recovery wells on existing residential wells.

Valeria Mahalik of Newtown asked if there could be an impact on Newtown Township's artesian wells, which supply Newtown's public water, including the high school and middle school.

Sarah Baiker, 123 Walker Road, asked if the recovery wells pose a risk to neighborhood wells.

Kat LaHart, 114 Spencer Road, asked for information regarding the plan and location for proposed monitoring wells.

Ginny Kerslake questioned the permitting process.

Rich Matusz, 112 Glenwood Drive, questioned the process for recovery and monitoring well installations.

Dan LaHart, 114 Spencer Road, asked if DEP could mandate a timeline to Sunoco/Energy Transfer for communication of information to residents.

Joan Stark, 121 Meadowview Drive, shared her frustration in being denied testing because she is outside of the radius, although her neighbors have positive tests.

Mr. Fennimore requested that the free product removed be tested for MTBE.

Mr. Thomas requested additional police patrol in the Mt. Eyre neighborhood due to the increased construction activity.

Mr. Taylor acknowledged that the dialogue with DEP at this meeting was productive, and he expressed dismay with Energy Transfer's position not to respond to questions publicly.

### **NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURMENT**

Ms. Taylor announced that Project Manager Dave Fennimore will hold a virtual meeting on March 26 from 7 to 8 p.m., and she encouraged residents to sign up for an invitation tonight or contact the Township. A motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Weldon to adjourn the meeting at 9:53 P.M. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. Nyman  
Township Manager

Approved: April 1, 2025