



## GOVERNOR JOSH SHAPIRO

February 28, 2025

Secretary Sean Duffy  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Duffy:

I am writing to request expedited action from the federal government and your agency to ensure public safety following the jet fuel leak from the Twin Oaks Pipeline in the Mount Eyre neighborhood of Upper Makefield Township, Bucks County. Reports show the leak was caused by a sleeve installed over 30 years ago and went undetected by pipeline operators for 16 months, resulting in a jet fuel leak affecting Pennsylvanians' homes and businesses and contaminating local water sources. According to pipeline operator Energy Transfer, there are several dozen similar sleeves at other locations along the pipeline, raising questions about the integrity of the entire pipeline.

This is the latest incident in a long pattern of safety concerns with Sunoco and Energy Transfer pipelines in Pennsylvania — a pattern including activity I brought criminal charges against while serving as Attorney General of Pennsylvania.

As you know, the Pipeline Safety Act puts interstate hazardous liquid pipeline facilities under federal jurisdiction through PHMSA. In your role as Acting Administrator, I urge you to exercise every authority within your discretion to expedite the process of thoroughly testing the Twin Oaks pipeline and confirming it to be safe for continued operation.

I understand that PHMSA has directed Sunoco to reduce the pipeline's pressure by 20 percent, and that Sunoco has also completed a series of excavations under PHMSA's supervision in order to visually inspect other sleeves in the vicinity of the leak. I encourage you to push Sunoco to immediately conduct additional testing and inspection — including inspecting the other sleeves that are present elsewhere on the pipeline — to identify any threats to the integrity of the pipeline which you directed in your February 13, 2025, Proposed Safety Order.

I also request that your agency be stringent in your review of Sunoco's Remedial Work Plan, which was also directed in your Proposed Safety Order. The steps required in the Work Plan — including root cause analysis, further repair activities, and assessments of Sunoco's leak detection, inspection and maintenance programs — are critical to providing both near term confidence in the safety of the line, and assurances that similar incidents will be avoided in the future.

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Pennsylvanians are rightfully concerned about the integrity of the pipeline and Sunoco has not demonstrated adequate ability to detect leaks and take appropriate actions, given what appears to have been a significant delay between the initial indications of a leak and the response. We need the federal government, and your agency, to partner with us and work quickly to alleviate those concerns.

As you are aware, the federal government has primary jurisdiction related to the operation of interstate pipelines under the Pipeline Safety Act. That said, my Administration, particularly the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, has been closely involved with the site investigation, characterization, and remediation process and will continue to stand with residents until the cleanup is complete. At my direction, DEP has ensured every residence with elevated testing levels in their water are being provided with water treatment systems.

To date, third party environmental consultants working under the oversight of DEP have conducted over 332 water tests at residences in the affected area and treatment systems have been installed at any residences at which results have indicated constituents above statewide health standards. DEP is also overseeing hydrology testing to characterize the subsurface affected area and better understand groundwater flow, which will help inform the longer-term remediation plan.

As you continue your agency's response to this incident, I also urge you to continue to be transparent with impacted residents, who deserve to know how this leak occurred, why it went undetected for so long, and how they can feel safe in their community moving forward.

Please don't hesitate to reach out if my Administration can assist further — we offer you every resource at our disposal to ensure this does not happen again.

Thank you,



Governor Josh Shapiro