



**Resolution No. 2019-21**

**A Resolution Urging Public Awareness Meetings by Hazardous Liquids Pipeline Operators**

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission has launched a review of its safety regulations governing the operation of natural gas and other hazardous liquids pipelines; and

WHEREAS, the protection of the public's health, safety and welfare is paramount in our responsibilities as public officials at all levels of government; and

WHEREAS, without adequate safety precautions and necessary regulatory oversight, the operation of hazardous materials pipelines could pose a danger to the public; and

WHEREAS, enhancing the public's trust in the safe operation of natural gas and hazardous materials pipelines is a critical component of the responsibility of those who operate these pipelines and of those who have regulatory oversight of these operations; and

WHEREAS, the operators of one of these pipelines, Sunoco Pipeline/Energy Transfer Partners, has refused -- on at least three occasions -- invitations to attend community and county-hosted meetings to address citizen questions and concerns regarding their pipeline operations in Cumberland County; and

WHEREAS, while we appreciate the company's efforts to train first responders in the case of an emergency, and to mail general informational materials to the public residing within close proximity to pipeline operations, we believe the company should be required to hold periodic public outreach meetings to address any individual citizen questions and concerns; and

WHEREAS, order and decorum can easily be accomplished by requiring the company to work in cooperation with municipal and county officials to host such sessions; and

WHEREAS, the Public Utility Commission has the authority to enhance the minimum federal "public awareness" safety rules, promulgated by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, to require pipeline operators to conduct regional and periodic public outreach meetings; and

WHEREAS, because of the transient nature of our population, with new citizens moving in and others moving out on a regular basis, we believe the requirement of public outreach meetings should occur on a local or regional basis at least once a year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Cumberland County does hereby respectfully request that the Public Utility Commission order hazardous liquids pipeline operators to conduct public outreach meetings, at least once a year on a local or regional basis, for the purpose of outlining safety precautions and to address any individual citizen questions and concerns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission, to municipalities throughout Cumberland County, to our region's Councils of Governments, to Cumberland County's state Senate and House delegation, and to the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania for distribution to other jurisdictions.

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

  
Sandy Moyle, Chief Clerk

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

  
Vincent T. DiFilippo, Chairman

  
Jim Hertzler, Vice-Chairman

  
Gary Eichelberger, Secretary

**Seal:**

