

**Madison Brame**

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**From:** Dorothea Leicher <dleicher@dleicher.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2024 8:20 AM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** Please Approve PUC's Final Rules on Hazardous Pipelines

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Dear Independent Regulatory Review Commission,

Dear IRRC Commissioners,

I'm writing to comment in support of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission's final rules that strengthen safety standards for the construction, operation, maintenance, accident reporting, and public awareness for intrastate hazardous liquid pipelines. I ask that the IRRC approve these much-needed standards that will better protect our communities and environment.

These standards are a necessary response after the numerous disasters and accidents during the construction of the Mariner East 2 pipeline. According to the PUC, between 2010 and 2021, there were 71 hazardous liquid pipeline accidents in Pennsylvania that resulted in a release or spill. The potential for a future disaster is especially alarming given the densely populated areas that the Mariner East 2 pipeline runs through.

These new standards are well within the authority of the Public Utility Commission, which is authorized to regulate and supervise all public utilities operating within the state. Hazardous liquid pipelines are considered utilities and therefore within the PUC's authority to regulate. In fact, this rule is also necessary for PUC to fulfill its mandate to ensure that public utilities furnish safe and reasonable service.

I urge you to approve these new, stronger standards completed by the Public Utility Commission in their final rulemaking order. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Since pipelines are much cheaper transport than alternatives, they can be expected to continue to be used and/or expanded which makes their safety paramount.

Sincerely,  
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