Sierra Club and Lancaster Against Pipelines Moves to Block Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline Expansion Widely Opposed Pipeline was Recently Granted a Water Permit Moving it Closer to Approval

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Harrisburg, PA -- Yesterday, the Sierra Club <u>filed an appeal</u> to block Williams Gas and Energy's planned Atlantic Sunrise pipeline in Pennsylvania. Last week, Lancaster Against Pipelines filed a similar appeal. The proposed pipeline includes nearly 200 miles of new pipeline, and would expand the Transco system, a network of 10,000 miles of pipeline that moves 10-percent of gas consumed in the country.

"This appeal builds on the work of communities and advocates across the country to push state and federal agencies to fulfill their duties to protect the public and the environment in their reviews of risky pipeline infrastructure," said Sierra Club Associate Attorney Diana Csank. "Pennsylvania is already in the crosshairs of the gas industry, and we have confidence that the Wolf Administration will make good on its promise to fix the breakdown in pipeline permitting."

Since the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) delayed its review of the pipeline, Pennsylvania has time to correct the decision to certify that the pipeline complies with state law requirements and certain federal Clean Water Act requirements.

"Sadly, Pennsylvanians were reminded once again last week of the dangers gas pipelines pose when a massive gas pipeline exploded outside of Pittsburgh," said Joanne Kilgour, Director of Sierra Club Pennsylvania. "We cannot continue to take the risk gas poses to our communities, our health, or our environment. The Atlantic Sunrise proposal must be rejected."

"Lancaster Against Pipelines exists for one purpose, to do everything in our power to stop the proposed Atlantic Sunrise Pipeline from being built," **said Tim Spiese of Lancaster Against Pipelines**. "The use of eminent domain to secure easements, the exposure to explosions, methane leaks, diminished property values and the threat of climate change are a just few of the reasons we in Lancaster County have challenged the PA DEP's issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certificate to FERC for this proposed project."

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