

Rose Tree Media School District  
DELAWARE COUNTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-2017 55

A RESOLUTION of the Rose Tree Media School District Board of School Directors, Delaware County, expressing great concern to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP), the Commissioners of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission and the Delaware County Council regarding proposed high pressure hazardous liquids pipeline projects that have the potential to dramatically increase the risk of catastrophic accidents, and jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of Rose Tree Media School District students and staff. The Rose Tree Media School District Board of School Directors seeks to intervene in the PADEP permitting process in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the Rose Tree Media students and community.

WHEREAS, Sunoco Pipeline L.P. (Sunoco) has announced that it is currently transporting hazardous, highly volatile liquids under high pressure through Delaware County, a “high consequence area” using a repurposed pipeline installed in the 1930s with a capacity of 70,000 barrels (2,940,000 gallons) per day; and

WHEREAS, additional proposed Sunoco pipeline(s), marketed as “Mariner East 2” could, if constructed, transport through the Rose Tree Media School District an additional 450,000 barrels (18,900,000 gallons) per day or more of these same materials; and

WHEREAS, Sunoco has a record of 276 spills of hazardous liquids since 2006, more than any other pipeline operator tracked by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); and

WHEREAS, these materials, which are being transported through the Rose Tree Media School District for the first time by Sunoco would, if released, create an invisible, odorless, heavier than air, and extremely flammable or explosive gas cloud; and

WHEREAS, the proposed new pipeline(s), if constructed, would run within 625 feet of Glenwood Elementary School buildings, and within 850 feet of the center of the school complex, placing the entire school campus with 445 students and 60 staff members well within a potential blast zone; and

WHEREAS 2,143 students and 290 staff members based in three additional schools within the Rose Tree Media School District are located within 3 miles of the proposed pipeline, and therefore could be subject to emergency evacuation in the event of a leak, breach, or explosion; and



1 petroleum products, and/or natural gas liquids that may have direct or indirect impacts on the  
2 health, safety, and welfare of district students.

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4 **Section III**

5 The Rose Tree Media School Board asks that the Governor of the Commonwealth of  
6 Pennsylvania and the Secretary of the PADEP allow for an open comment period of no less than  
7 60 days upon the resubmission of the Sunoco Mariner East 2 permit application to the PADEP,  
8 and similarly requests a public hearing to be held in Delaware County to address the public  
9 health and safety concerns of Delaware County municipalities and the Rose Tree Media School  
10 District.

11 **Section IV**

12 The Rose Tree Media School District also strongly suggests that the Governor of the  
13 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Secretary of the PADEP reclassify the permit  
14 application for the Mariner East 2 pipeline to include both liquid and gaseous material transport  
15 of hazardous materials. As part of the reclassification, we support the development of a  
16 comprehensive independent risk assessment study of all of Delaware County, including Rose  
17 Tree Media School District, as well as the development of an incident-response plan, which  
18 includes (but is not limited to) viable worst-case evacuation routes; enhanced safety equipment  
19 and safety training for first responders; and separation of new pipelines from existing residences,  
20 schools, businesses and hospitals by a distance equal to or greater than the Potential Impact  
21 Radius (PIR) of those pipelines.

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23 **ADOPTED** by the Rose Tree Media School District Board of School Directors, Delaware  
24 County, Pennsylvania, at the regular meeting of said Board held this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November  
25 2016.

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27 Rose Tree Media School District, Delaware County, Pennsylvania

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30 James M. Wigo, Sr.  
31 Superintendent of Schools

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William O'Donnell  
Board of School Director President

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34 Grace Eves  
35 Board of School Director Secretary

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