

Carl A Marrara, Harrisburg, PA.
The Honorable Debbie-Anne A. Reese, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426
RE: CP-25-29-000, Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage, Inc. Capital Area
Project

Dear Secretary Reese:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association (PMA), we write in support of Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage's proposed Capital Area Project. PMA is the statewide, nonprofit trade organization that represents the manufacturing sector here in our commonwealth; generating over \$101 billion annually in state gross product, employing more than 550,000 hardworking Pennsylvanians on the plant floor, and supporting supply, distribution, and retail networks that sustain millions of additional Pennsylvania jobs.

We understand the critical importance of reliable, affordable energy infrastructure to the continued growth and success of our industry. The Capital Area Project is essential to ensuring energy reliability, fostering economic development, and maintaining the competitiveness of our sector.

The Capital Area Project will improve the capacity and reliability of natural gas transmission to the Washington D.C. metropolitan area, but with major infrastructure upgrades and access throughout our commonwealth. A secure, efficient natural gas supply is crucial for our manufacturing processes, which depend on consistent and affordable energy to remain competitive in the global market. The expansion of Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage's infrastructure will support both current and future energy demand, while also enhancing the resilience of the region's energy grid.

Manufacturers in particular depend on the affordable dry and liquid gas supplies to remain globally competitive. Under current market constrictions, when there is a high demand for gas the priority is given to residential and institutional markets - leaving industry to find alternative fuel sources that are often much more expensive and less environmentally sound. Total natural gas demand is poised to increase by 40 percent over the next decade and researchers at the National Association of Manufacturers found the key drivers of this demand will be manufacturing and power generation. Therefore, projects such as the Capital Area Project are vitally important to the productive sector of our commonwealth's economy.

Additionally, the project will foster economic development in the region by attracting new investments, creating jobs, and supporting the broader manufacturing network. A modernized and expanded pipeline infrastructure is critical for the future competitiveness of our industry, as it ensures that businesses can grow, innovate, and create jobs without the burden of energy instability.

We also commend Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage for its efforts to engage with local communities and stakeholders throughout the development process. Their commitment to transparency and environmental stewardship, as demonstrated through the careful planning and mitigation strategies for this project, further strengthens the case for its approval.

In conclusion, on behalf of Pennsylvania's manufacturers, we urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage's Capital Area Project, as it will significantly benefit the manufacturing sector and the broader economy. The increased energy reliability and capacity provided by the project will support our members in staying competitive and will contribute to long-term economic growth and stability in the region.

Best regards,
David N. Taylor, President & CEO
Carl A. Marrara, Executive Director
Pennsylvania Manufacturers' Association

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