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AFFILIATED A.F.L.-C.I.O.

January 6, 2025

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

Secretary Reese,

On behalf of Pipeliners Local Union 798, I am writing to express our strong support for the Capital Area Project (CAP), an initiative proposed by Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage (EGTS). Pipeliners Local Union 798 represents nearly 6,000 skilled pipeline professionals, including welders, spacers, and helpers. For over 75 years, we have proudly contributed to constructing and maintaining the nation's critical energy infrastructure.

The CAP exemplifies our shared commitment to delivering safe, reliable, and affordable energy solutions while addressing the growing energy needs in Maryland and Virginia. By expanding EGTS' existing infrastructure without building new pipeline facilities, the project highlights efficiency, environmental stewardship, and community well-being. Specifically, it will increase the compression capacity of the PL-1 system to deliver an additional 67,500 dekatherms per day (dth/d) of natural gas—a vital resource for homes, businesses, and utilities in the region.

This expansion directly supports natural gas utilities in Loudoun County, VA, utilizing gas storage from Clinton County, PA, to meet energy demands without overburdening natural resources or disrupting local communities.

EGTS' commitment to safety and environmental standards is evident through its detailed project design and adherence to FERC and state regulations. Key improvements include replacing gas coolers, upgrading the Finnefrock Station's auxiliary systems, and installing over 22,000 horsepower of new turbines across the Centre, Chambersburg, and Leesburg Stations. These enhancements ensure operational reliability, safety, and environmental sustainability.

The CAP is more than an infrastructure project; it is a vital investment in our communities. By leveraging existing pipelines and minimizing disruptive construction, it fosters economic growth while preserving the integrity of local neighborhoods. Furthermore, it ensures residents have access to affordable heating and reliable energy, especially during peak demands.

Securing the necessary permits and certifications will guarantee the project's transparency and accountability. EGTS has actively engaged with stakeholders, including Pipeliners Local Union 798, to incorporate community input and uphold industry best practices.

We urge FERC to approve the necessary permits for the Capital Area Project. Your support will enable EGTS to address critical energy challenges while contributing to the sustainable growth of our regional infrastructure. Thank you for your consideration, and we remain available to provide any additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. Hendrix **Business Manager** 

**Pipeliners Local Union 798** 

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Document Accession #: 20250106-5071 Filed Date: 01/06/2025