

BREATHE PROJECT

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DEP Must Deny Shell Pipeline Company's Falcon Pipeline Applications

Aug. 27, 2018 – The time is now to step up, write and send emails to the DEP stating that the DEP should deny the Shell Pipeline Company Falcon permit applications. Email letters to:

RA-EPWW-SWRO@pa.gov and carbon copy Dana Drake, DEP Wetlands Permit Engineer, at dadrake@pa.gov

Here is some sample messaging that you can use to craft your emails:

The DEP deficiency letters confirmed that Shell failed to execute sound technical judgment in the proposed routing of the Falcon pipeline, especially as it pertains to sedimentation and erosion control and ultimately to public safety and health. Shell's responses to the DEP letters (Aug. 1, 2018) confirm, once again, that Shell has not done its due diligence and fails to be a good neighbor.

The DEP deficiency letters (June 1, 2018) required many additional responses by Shell. Based on Shell's failure to adequately respond to these technical concerns and because of the concerns raised by both organizations and citizens, we urge the DEP to DENY the Falcon Pipeline sedimentation and erosion control permits for the following reasons:

- Shell failed to give the Ambridge Water Authority any assurances that there will be no risk to the region's water supply, which provides drinking water to 40,000 people. Shell misstated the concerns of the Ambridge Water Authority in its responses to the DEP deficiency letters.
- The Ambridge Water Authority and Ambridge Borough Council are extremely concerned about the risk presented by the proposed ethane pipeline that would cross through the high-quality headwaters of the Ambridge Reservoir and under the raw service line.
- The DEP deficiency letters directed Shell to "evaluate and discuss the project's potential to impact any public water systems and their sources that are within 1-mile of your proposed pipeline system." This includes private wells near schools, churches, public institutions and private landowners. Locating the Falcon pipeline near sources of drinking water should not be permitted.
- The DEP cited a number of deficiencies regarding Shell's lack of attention to sedimentation (Section 102 and 105) and erosion issues. The Shell pipeline will pass through several sensitive wetland areas including the Independence Marsh, home to protected endangered species. Shell's remediation of wetlands in Mercer and Washington counties is an unacceptable swap for destroying precious conservancy areas in Beaver County.
- It is our determination that Shell's responses to the deficiency letters are inadequate. For this reason we urge the DEP to DENY these permit for the falcon pipeline. The DEP should convene

an additional public hearing in order to give other impacted community members the opportunity to express their concerns about Shell's responses to the deficiency letters.

- The DEP must uphold the Pennsylvania Environmental Rights Amendment: The people have a right to clean air, pure water and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people. – Article I, Section 27 of the Pa. state constitution—the Environmental Rights Amendment.