



House of Representatives

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

March 10, 2009

Mr. John Hanger, Acting Secretary
Department of Environmental Protection
16th Floor, Rachel Carson State Office Building
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Hanger:

The walls continue to close in on the property owners impacted by the Williams Transco pipeline project. Today we have learned that Williams has filed condemnation proceedings against thirty seven property owners in Chester County. We are also informed that a "second wave" of condemnation suits will be filed in the near future.

It has been apparent for some time now that the only real hope for landowners and our environmental resources to be fully protected lies with the Department of Environmental Protection's review of permits needed by Williams.

To that end, we were reassured during our recent conference call that you as Secretary are concerned and protective of the public's interests. In the joint statement that was issued after our conference call, and approved by DEP, you were commended for your position to protect the Brandywine by requiring horizontal drilling beneath the Brandywine if it is the method that best protects the Brandywine and its banks. Conversely you would require Williams Transco to demonstrate why any alternative to boring beneath the creek is necessary.

You have also taken a strong stand against the size of the proposed rights of way and in support of proper Erosion and Sedimentation Control.

Mr. Secretary, in recent days we have heard rumors that DEP might be softening its stance on these issues. We call on you to stand strong on behalf of the residents of Chester County. DEP's actions will literally determine whether our resident's properties and our county's environmental resources will be protected.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Very truly yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Rafferty, Jr.".

John Rafferty, Jr.
State Senator
44th District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duane Milne".

Duane Milne
State Representative
167th District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Dinniman".

Andrew Dinniman
State Senator
19th District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Curt Schroder".

Curt Schroder
State Representative
155th District