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Delaware Riverkeeper Network Files Rehearing Request For Adelphia Gateway Pipeline Project

Washington, DC – On January 21, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network filed a request with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a rehearing of the Adelphia Gateway Pipeline project certificate, asking the agency to reconsider its decision to issue a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity.

FERC issued the certificate in December 2019. Before a FERC Certification can be challenged in federal court, a rehearing request must be submitted and either approved or denied by the agency. FERC has 30 days to respond. Unfortunately, according to a <u>Dossier of FERC Abuses</u> crafted by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, FERC traditionally responds to rehearing requests with a tolling order, which neither grants nor denies the request, and as a result places challengers like the Delaware Riverkeeper Network in legal limbo for months, sometimes over a year.

"We always knew this pipeline would get approved by FERC, it was just a matter of time as to when," said Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. "FERC is a rubber stamp and has once again violated its obligations under NEPA and the NGA to consider the impacts of climate change that would result from the project, even after we did FERC's job for them by identifying and quantifying the climate changing impacts of this next devastating pipeline FERC wants to allow to cut through our communities, environments and region. And that is just one of the many ways FERC bent or broke the law in its approval of this project. We are prepared to challenge Adelphia's certificate in order to protect the communities and environments it will irreparably harm."

Among other harms posed by the project, DRN is focused on the climate change impacts of the project and has been urging FERC to consider these impacts when considering natural gas pipeline approvals. FERC Commissioner Glick issued a dissenting statement on the certificate approval, highlighting the fact that the approval failed to take the climate change impact of fossil fuels into consideration.

The proposed pipeline project consists of acquiring and converting 89 miles of existing pipelines,

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primarily built in the 1970s to transport oil and including a 50-mile segment of pipeline that has been out of service for 6 years, to natural gas pipelines. The project also includes construction and operation of two new compressor stations, installing 4.75 miles of new lateral pipelines, and constructing 8 new meter stations. The project will run from Martins Creek, PA to Marcus Hook, PA crossing Delaware, Chester, Montgomery, Bucks, and Northampton Counties, PA and will transport 850,000 Dth/d (850 million cubic feet per day) of natural gas.

A copy of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network filing can be found at: https://delawareriverkeeper.org/sites/default/files/DRN%20DR%20Rehearing%20Petition%20and%20Stay%20Request%20re%20AGP%20Cert.pdf

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About the Delaware Riverkeeper Network

Delaware Riverkeeper Network (DRN) is a nonprofit membership organization working throughout the four states of the Delaware River Watershed including Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and New York. DRN provides effective environmental advocacy, volunteer monitoring programs, stream restoration projects, public education, and legal enforcement of environmental protection laws.