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Statement from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network

*PennEast Pipeline Company drops landowner lawsuits in Pennsylvania*

The PennEast Pipeline Company has reportedly decided to drop its eminent domain proceedings against 70 private landowners in Pennsylvania, stating to the press that the company did not think it was “prudent” to continue the action at this time. This comes after an August 5th Securities and Exchange Commission filing by New Jersey Resources, one of the member companies of PennEast Pipeline, in which the company states it has determined a decline in the value of its equity investment due to the remaining legal and regulatory challenges PennEast faces.

“The PennEast pipeline has plagued Pennsylvania and New Jersey since 2014, threatening the intrepid landowners who resisted them and the water quality and environmental integrity of everything along its destructive path, which includes 87 waterways and 53 wetlands in both states. Delaware Riverkeeper Network thanks the people of Pennsylvania who have bravely resisted this aggressive conglomerate. We will continue to carry forward our advocacy and our litigation opposing this project to ensure PennEast is completely and permanently stopped,” said Tracy Carluccio, Deputy Director of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

In June, the Supreme Court ruled that the PennEast Pipeline Company could use eminent domain to seize lands owned by the State of New Jersey. However, the company still faces legal challenges from the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, which were held in abeyance during the Supreme Court challenge and can now proceed. The project also still needs to obtain several permits, and permission from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to split the project into two segments.

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