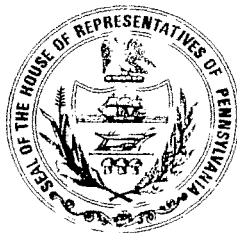


Respond to: CURT SCHRODER, MEMBER
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House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

COMMITTEES

GAMING OVERSIGHT - CHAIRMAN
INSURANCE

Memorandum

Date: December 30, 2010
To: All House Members
From: Curt Schroder, Member
155th Legislative District
RE: Cosponsorship – Mid-Atlantic Area Natural Gas Corridor Interstate Compact

In the near future, I plan to re-introduce legislation creating a Mid-Atlantic Area Natural Gas Corridor Interstate Compact. As the production, transportation, and distribution of natural gas so often crosses state borders, it is considered a product of interstate commerce and regulated as such by the federal government. The Federal government and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) thus control the siting of natural gas distribution pipelines. However, the Natural Gas Act of 1938 includes provisions for interstate compacts; therefore, in order to establish greater regional control in this process, my legislation authorizes the creation of an interstate compact commission to govern siting of interstate natural gas distribution pipelines among the member states. The Compact would replace FERC for siting pipelines and thus would not be duplicative.

The current system of siting natural gas pipelines is broken! The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has exclusive authority at this point and acts as a rubber stamp for the wants of the pipeline companies. Your constituents pay the price as their property rights are devoured by right of way easements and natural resources are subjected to scant review and protection by FERC. It is truly a David v. Goliath scenario where homeowners can only plead and protest to an unresponsive, huge federal bureaucracy that ignores their concerns.

It is time to level the playing field and provide a review process that will be responsive to the needs of our communities and residents, as well as our streams and natural resources. An interstate compact will bring decision making closer to those

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and will require the pipeline companies to recognize the important needs of our communities.

If you are interested in cosponsoring this legislation, please call 783-2520 or e-mail Heather Epler at hepler@pahousegop.com

CS/hme