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## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Debbie-Ann A. Reese, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, NE Washington, DC 20426

August 8, 2025

RE: CP25-528-000, Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage, Inc. Appalachian Reliability Project Via E-File and customer@ferc.gov

Dear Secretary Reese,

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry (the "Pennsylvania Chamber"), I write to express our strong support for Eastern Gas Transmission and Storage's (EGTS) application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and its Appalachian Reliability Project (ARP), which is before the Commission under docket CP25-528-000. This important infrastructure project is designed to meet the growing energy needs of consumers throughout the Mid-Atlantic region by leveraging and enhancing existing pipeline systems to ensure the delivery of clean, reliable, and affordable natural gas.

The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry is the largest broad-based business association in Pennsylvania, representing nearly 10,000 businesses. Our membership includes companies involved in all aspects of the natural gas industry including the extraction, processing, and transportation of natural gas, as well as local distribution companies that deliver natural gas to end users.

Pennsylvania plays a vital role in both the national and global energy landscapes, serving as a key hub for numerous energy resources. With increasing energy demand and a looming projected generation shortfall in the PJM region, it is essential that Pennsylvania continues to strengthen our energy infrastructure, and the Appalachian Reliability Project is a key investment toward achieving this.

EGTS currently manages almost 4,000 miles of pipelines, ensuring the safe transportation of natural gas from production and storage fields to end-users across the Mid-Atlantic region, delivering clean, reliable and affordable energy to large customers including utilities and power plants, as well as local distribution companies, providing heat to millions of homes and businesses.

The Appalachian Reliability Project proposes to increase capacity on the EGTS system by 550,000 dekatherms per day of incremental firm transportation, connecting a new receipt point in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania with delivery points at Texas Eastern Pipeline in Westmoreland County, PA and the Rockies Express Pipeline (REX) in Monroe County, Ohio. The project also includes a combination of pipeline additions and compressor station upgrades, all of which build on EGTS's existing pipeline network.

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These upgrades improve operational reliability, reduce bottlenecks, and ensure efficient delivery to key downstream markets. Perhaps most importantly, this expanded capacity will serve growing residential, commercial, and industrial demand throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region, supporting economic development, job growth, and energy affordability.

Regulatory approval for the Appalachian Reliability Project is being pursued under Section 7(c) of the Natural Gas Act, and EGTS has demonstrated its commitment to meeting the highest standards of safety and environmental responsibility. The company adheres to stringent U.S. Department of Transportation safety requirements and implements robust operational procedures including regular inspections, testing, preventive maintenance, and vigilant patrolling of facilities to ensure the safety of communities and the environment.

The Pennsylvania Chamber supports projects such as this, that enhance Pennsylvania's energy leadership and increase economic and reliability benefits, while upholding regulatory compliance and environmental stewardship. The Appalachian Reliability Project aligns with these priorities by increasing system capacity, improving delivery efficiency, and reinforcing the region's energy resilience, all while being designed and implemented with a strong commitment to safety, environmental responsibility, and regulatory compliance.

For these reasons, the Pennsylvania Chamber respectfully urges the Commission to give full and timely consideration to EGTS's application and to approve the Appalachian Reliability Project under Docket No. CP25-528-000. Advancing this project will support energy security, promote economic growth, and ensure Pennsylvania remains a national leader in energy production and innovation. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

**Amy Brinton** 

Director, Government Affairs

PA Chamber of Business and Industry