Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, Filing Room
Harrisburg, PA 17120

June 11, 2018

RE: Petition of Senator Dinniman for Interim Emergency Relief; Docket No. P-2018-3001453

Dear Secretary Chiavetta,

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, the largest, broad-based business advocacy organization in the Commonwealth, I am writing to urge the Public Utility Commission to reverse Administrative Law Judge Barnes’ injunction to shut down operation of Mariner East 1 and construction of Mariner East 2. We share the Commission’s desire to ensure pipeline development occurs in a responsible manner, and as such we were encouraged to see the Commissioners only three weeks ago vote unanimously to restart Mariner East 1 operations after finding the pipeline would be operated safely.

Our nearly 10,000 members, across all industrial sectors, need certainty and predictability from regulatory agencies and the courts. We are troubled that the Administrative Law Judge set aside long-standing precedent for granting an injunction, and in particular that precedent on granting standing was ignored in order to grant standing to an elected political official who was not directly affected by the project. Further, we are concerned that much of the material included in the Administrative Law Judge’s opinion was never introduced into the record or through pleadings, meaning parties involved in this dispute were not given the opportunity to rebut or react to that material.

For these reasons, I urge the Commissioners to overturn the Administrative Law Judge’s order and to reaffirm their previous order, thereby allowing operation of Mariner East 1 and construction of Mariner East 2 to resume.

Sincerely,

Gene Barr
President and CEO

CC: Gladys M. Brown, Chair, PUC
Andrew G. Place, Vice-chair, PUC
John F. Coleman, Jr., Commissioner
David W. Sweet, Commissioner
Norman J. Kennard, Commissioner
Sunoco Pipeline L.P.