

**Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce
PennEast Pipeline Project**

- The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce's mission is to improve the economy and quality of life in the Lehigh Valley. As such, it is very concerned about retaining (and preserving) energy supplies that are reliable, economical and environmentally friendly.
- A recent Drexel University study projected many economic benefits from the pipeline:
 - PennEast will spend \$1.9 billion on easement purchases, design and construction in a short period of time, through 2017
 - This results in \$1.6 billion in additional wages, revenues and investments in PA and NJ
 - Design, construction and support of the pipeline will create 12,600 construction jobs in an industry segment that is projecting significant growth and opportunity
 - Workforce will contribute estimated \$17.5 million in personal income taxes during construction
 - After construction, an ongoing approx. \$23 million in annual economic impact will be felt and 98 permanent jobs supported
 - PennEast Pipeline estimates that residents and businesses in Eastern PA and NJ would have saved close to \$800 million in energy costs if the pipeline had been in operation for the winter of 2013-2014
- It will provide natural gas to power plants in the PJM ISO, offering stability to the price of electricity across the entire grid.
- Low cost energy/reasonable power costs are key factors that companies analyze when making decisions to either stay here or relocate to or from this region
- PennEast has no facilities designed to export natural gas and the company has committed to use the gas in PA and NJ where there are ample local opportunities for sales.
- Therefore, in consideration of the foregoing, the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber is in support of the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project.