January 31, 2019

Dear Middletown Township Residents:

Township staff was notified by Sunoco of pending maintenance work to existing 8” and 12” pipelines in Middletown township, and the Township worked over the past few weeks to better understand the nature and scope of the planned work. Within their existing easements, south of Route 1, Sunoco will perform maintenance to enhance the safety of the pipelines. The estimated start of the work is February 10, 2020. The Township requested a statement on the scope of work, which Sunoco provided the following:

“Sunoco Pipeline LP (SPLP) plans to conduct maintenance work within Middletown Twp, Delaware County. The projects entail the excavation, inspection (coating and welds exposed) and controlled lowering of three pipelines at the two separate locations referenced to reestablish depth of cover to the pipelines. The pipeline segments affected by this work are the 8” Beckersville to Twin Oaks- ME1 (HVL), 8” Pt Breeze to Swedesford (Refined Products), and the 12” Fairview to Glen Riddle Junction -GRE (HVL). All work has been reviewed, coordinated and as required permits issued by the PADEP, Delaware County Conservation District, Middletown Township and affected Property owners. All work shall be performed by qualified contractors under oversight by third party and SPLP inspection and construction professionals. The work will be performed under safe and controlled conditions, compliant to SPLP, state, local and regulatory laws, codes and standards. Pipeline operations will be continuously monitored and controlled during the maintenance activity.”

The second site, and third pipe, noted in the statement is north of Route 1, south of Darlington Road and is not estimated to start until February 17, 2020. A separate notice and update will be provided prior to its commencement.

The Township’s Chapter 186 Grading and Excavation section is the only Township permit applicable to the above statement; all additional approvals and oversight are State, Federal or County regulations. Sunoco has provided location details to demonstrate compliance with Township Ordinance #795, working within a right-of-way within 0.25 miles of a school while it is in session. Township staff will monitor this compliance once work starts.
It is the Township’s understanding that the planned work outlined above will occur while the pipelines remain active. Further, the maintenance work will include a system of cranes that will suspend the pipelines at specific points along the work area during the maintenance and lowering of the pipelines. It is anticipated that this equipment will be visible to the public from the public right-of-way along Route 1/Baltimore Pike.

Township staff will update its website with new information at middletowndelcopa.gov/sunoco when available.

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Haines
Township Manager