



# Maryland

## Department of the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary  
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

February 15, 2018

Colonel Edward P. Chamberlayne  
Commander and District Engineer  
Baltimore District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Two Hopkins Plaza  
Baltimore, MD 21201

Re: **Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC/Eastern Panhandle Expansion Project**  
Joint Federal/State Application for the Alteration of any Floodplain, Waterway, Tidal or  
Nontidal Wetland in Maryland (Tracking No. 201760592/17-NT-3089)

Dear Colonel Chamberlayne:

As you know, the Maryland Department of the Environment ("MDE") and the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps") are currently conducting separate reviews of the above-referenced application. The applicant seeks to construct a 3.37 mile, 8-inch diameter natural gas transmission pipeline originating in Pennsylvania, running through Maryland and under the Potomac River, before terminating in West Virginia. We understand that the Corps is currently reviewing this project as a Category B project in accordance with Department of the Army Programmatic General Permit MDSPGP-5.

The public has raised some concerns about the impact of this project on the environment and public health. MDE has identified potential water quality and public interest factors that may justify the imposition of special conditions in the Corps' authorization under the MDSPGP-5.

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Corps withhold its determination on the application until MDE has had an opportunity to propose special conditions for inclusion in the Corps' authorization.

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me at (410) 537-3084 or by email at [ben.grumbles@maryland.gov](mailto:ben.grumbles@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Ben Grumbles  
Secretary

cc: Governor Larry Hogan