

Dear Employees of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ),

We are concerned residents of Louisiana writing to express our concern about the proposed Bayou Bridge Pipeline, jointly owned by Energy Transfer Partners, Phillips 66 Partners, and Sunoco Logistics.

The owners of Bayou Bridge have ignored significant, unacceptable impacts to surrounding wetlands, water bodies and communities, while also neglecting their necessary legal responsibilities. The LDNR and LDEQ must not grant permits to this pipeline, for the following reasons:

First, this pipeline poses a major threat to public safety. The installation of over 160 miles of pipe and supporting infrastructure across 11 parishes will impact more than 600 wetland acres and cross almost 700 bodies of water, including the drinking water for hundreds of thousands of Louisiana residents. Each of the three companies involved in this project have woeful safety records, with leaks, spills, and explosions as norms. Despite the inherent vulnerabilities of pipelines and the incident histories of these companies, they still have not developed complete disaster-response plans. In fact, the owners have not yet specified what type of material would be flowing through the completed pipeline. LDNR cannot possibly approve a spill response plan if the material flowing through the pipe is not known.

Second, the pipeline poses a significant harm to our state's wetland ecosystems. If built, it would pass less than 50 feet under Bayou Lafourche, which sustains over 100,000 acres of coastal wetlands. Moreover, by altering north-south flow within the Atchafalaya Basin, Bayou Bridge would degrade fertile swamps vital to wildlife and the wild crawfish industry. Bayou Bridge's owners have utterly failed to articulate their plans to mitigation this disruption to our fragile and precious ecosystems – even though a cursory review demonstrates that this pipeline proposal is inconsistent with the Atchafalaya Basin Plan, Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast, and Executive Order No. JBE 2016-09..

Third, the pipeline will increase the likelihood of severe flooding in impacted areas. Degrading wetland habitat reduces buffer from regional flooding. Additionally, impeding the natural flow of the Atchafalaya Basin will block the drainage of floodwaters from areas already prone to inundation. Given last year's devastating floods, we cannot accept this potential added risk.

Fourth, the construction of this pipeline will lead to an increase in the burning of fossil fuels and will add carbon to our atmosphere. However, Bayou Bridge's impacts to climate change have not been evaluated. As state agencies, LDNR and LDEQ must consider the immediate economic and public safety risks to homeland security that the changing climate presents. The climate contribution from BBPL/ETP must be comprehensively quantified, from the point of oil extraction to the end-use of refined products. Contributions of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere from filling wetlands and

destroying soils must also be quantified. Conversely, the threats posed by climate change to the long-term viability of BBPL/ETP must also be evaluated. Sinking lands, rising seas, and heavy rains do not bode well for the pipe's longevity.

Finally, no public need for the pipeline exists. Pipeline owners cite national "energy independence" as their motivating purpose, but our country is a net exporter of petroleum products. With no public benefits apparent, the LDNR and LDEQ must consider a "no-action" alternative.

Louisiana state agencies must do all in their power to prevent further degradation of our remaining swamps, which are both culturally and economically essential to our state. Because the ownership companies have not supplied LDNR and LDEQ with information to weigh these impacts, LDNR and LDEQ must deny their requested permits.

Sincerely,