The Unitarian Universalist Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network Environmental Justice Team (UUPLAN EJ) represents a community of Unitarian Universalists congregations and individuals responding to climate change as a moral issue. We envision a clean, safe energy future in which the poor and vulnerable no longer bear the heaviest burdens of our energy use, in which climate change has been slowed, and we can begin to mend the damage already done to our common home.

This resolution does not condone or ban existing fossil fuel infrastructure or use, although UUPLAN is committed to a fossil fuel free future, calling for a moratorium on fracking and all fossil fuel use by 2050.

The resolution does call for an end to any new fossil fuel infrastructure, which would commit us to continued use of fossil fuels. We must begin to covenant with the future we wish to live: one that is sustainable and just, and protects the vulnerable. To make moral decisions about our energy future, we need the freedom to choose, and we will not have the freedom to afford a clean energy future if we continue to invest in our current, destructive system.

It is obvious that communities, federal entities, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, are under pressure to permit a vast network of proposed gas pipelines and increased volume of railroad traffic with tank cars filled with oil destined for processing plants. Increasing the means of transport will unfortunately increase the volume of natural gas extracted.

Methane can no longer be considered a responsible “bridge fuel.” Far more methane is released during fracking than previous estimates anticipated, and due to methane’s large immediate impact, it can further destabilize the climate.

Fossil fuel infrastructure will prolong and accelerate the depletion of natural resources from communities in order to get at mineral resources. Fossil fuel infrastructure feeds a system that is already destroying the environment on which we depend, including clean air and safe drinking water.

Thus, as people of faith and residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, we call on the Commonwealth to:

- Stop construction of fossil fuel infrastructure, including pipelines, port facilities, additional road and rail routes designed for fossil fuel transport.
- Stop permits and construction of new fossil fuel processing facilities.
- Stop permits and building of new power generation plants utilizing fossil fuels.
- Stop permits and building of additional drilling sites.

Moratorium passed by the UUPLAN Environmental Justice Team on August 8, 2019
Credit Pennsylvania Interfaith Power & Light (PA-IPL) for the use of their Policy on Fossil Fuel Infrastructure, resolution passed February 2016