



STOP THE PIPELINE

What is the “Northeast Energy Direct” pipeline project?

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company (TGP) is proposing to build a new 296-mile long gas pipeline called the Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline Project (NED). TGP is owned by Kinder Morgan, the third largest energy company in North America. Kinder Morgan is a Master Limited Partnership, and pays no corporate income tax. It is run by Richard Kinder, who used to be a top executive at Enron.

The NED pipeline is being proposed in two discrete segments: (1) 117 miles from Susquehanna County, PA through Broome, Delaware, and Schoharie Counties to Wright, NY; and (2) 179 miles from Wright, NY east to Dracut, MA, which is near the Atlantic Ocean. In Dracut, the pipeline would connect with the Maritimes and Northeast Pipeline so the gas could be exported to Canada and shipped overseas by way of LNG export facilities in Nova Scotia. The pipeline would be either 30 or 36 inches in diameter, and require large compressor stations along the route to pressurize the gas being transported.

This pipeline is in a very preliminary stage, and it is not certain that TGP will file an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for either or both segments. If an application is filed next year, then FERC would have to complete a lengthy environmental review before determining if there is a need for the project. A certificate of “public convenience and necessity” would give TGP the right to use eminent domain to seize private property for pipeline easements, but that would not happen for at least two years. For now, TGP cannot enter your property unless you grant them permission.

Does this proposed pipeline have anything to do with fracking?

YES. The pipeline is all about fracking. The gas that would be initially transported in the pipeline would be extracted in Pennsylvania in a region that has seen devastating environmental impacts from fracking, including drinking water contamination. However, by federal law this pipeline would be open access, which means it would have to accept gas from drilling sites along its entire route. There would be a compressor station at every point gas is added, and a vast network of smaller pipelines would quickly spread. The segment from Pennsylvania to Wright, NY is above both the Marcellus and Utica Shale formations, and the areas near the interstate pipeline would be next in line to be fracked. Everyone would experience the negative impacts of fracking, including lower property values. **A pipeline is fracking made real.**

Can the pipeline be stopped?

YES. The TGP Northeast Energy Direct Pipeline Project is only in the planning stage. **This is by no means a done deal.** TGP will be confronted with the same community opposition that has stalled the “Constitution” pipeline. Many towns in Massachusetts have already passed resolutions opposing the pipeline, and towns and villages in New York should do the same. If we are united in opposition, they will not build it.

What can we do?

Landowners should not cooperate with the pipeline company. TGP does not have any authority to enter your property, so do not sign any permission forms mailed to you by the pipeline company. Instead, send TGP a letter (by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested) denying them permission to enter your property for a survey or any other reason. This puts them on notice that **unauthorized access will be treated as trespass.*** (Please send us a copy of your letter to TGP.) Their address is: Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company LLC, PO Box 1008, Oneonta, NY 13820. A form letter that you can download and print at home is on our website.

Attend the next pipeline group meeting. Our large opposition group meets monthly in Oneonta. There you can learn more about this proposed project, ask questions, and talk with other landowners who are in your situation. Visit our website for details.

Contact your elected officials. Tell them you oppose the proposed NED pipeline. Do not support any effort to push the pipeline to the next property or the next town. This pipeline will harm us all. Pipelines are not safe, cause environmental harm, encourage fracking, and reduce property values. **The only good pipeline route is no pipeline route.** Work with neighbors and others in your town, as well as your town board members, to protect your best interests. Ask that they pass a resolution opposing this proposed pipeline project. Call or write:

Senator J. Seward
172 State Street, Room 430
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-3131

Assemblyman Pete Lopez
Legislative Office Building 402
Albany, NY 12248
518-455-5363

Senator John J. Bonacic
188 State Street, Room 509
Albany, NY 12247
518-455-3181

Assemblywoman C. Tenney
5176 State Rte 233, PO Box 597
Westmoreland, NY 13490
315-853-2383

Congressman Chris Gibson
1702 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5614

For more information please visit these websites:

Stop the Pipeline: www.StopThePipeline.org

Center For Sustainable Rural Communities: www.RuralCommunities.org

* The information provided in this flyer is intended for informational purposes and is not intended as, nor should it be considered to be, legal advice. Anyone who is potentially impacted by this or any other pipeline should consult with an attorney.