

NESE Pipeline and Compressor Station: Chokepoints and Tactics

Jeff Tittel, Director, New Jersey Sierra Club



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Transco's Proposed Northeast Supply Enhancement Project



PROPOSED PROJECT SCOPE NORTHEAST SUPPLY ENHANCEMENT PROJECT*

Pipeline	Miles	Mileposts	Facilities/Modifications
1 42" Quarryville Loop (Line D) - Lancaster County	12.12	Stantline MP 1581.00 to 1591.12	1 STA 206 - Construct a Greenfield compressor station in Somerset County with 2 Mers 100 (14,000HP each) 2 STA 200 - Add 1 ENG-Compressor (21,000 HP)
2 24" Mattson Loop (Line C) - Middlesex County	3.43	STA 207 MP 8.57 to Morgan M&R STA MP 11.09	
3 Proposed 24" Raritan Bay Loop	22.02	Morgan Station M.P. 11.89 to Rockaway Delivery Lateral M.P. 34.01	

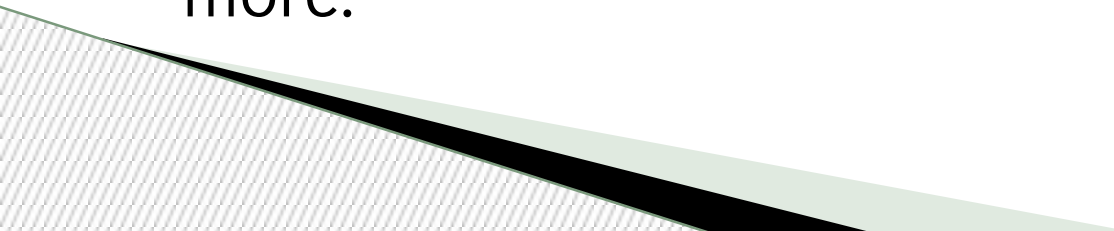
*Subject to change. Based on 2020/18 centerlines.

Source: The Williams Companies

We Must Oppose Entire Project

- ▶ Compressor Station proposed in Trap Rock Quarry
 - scheduled and sporadic blowdowns and fugitive emissions will cause noise, air, and light pollution
- ▶ Pipeline into the Raritan Bay
 - Pollution in the Bay would affect fisheries, tourism, and public health and safety
- ▶ We must fight against BOTH sides of this project if we want to stop it!

Compressor Station Pollutants

- ▶ release many toxic pollutants into the air including chromium and radon as well as formaldehyde, propane, isobutene, cyclohexane, benzene, toluene, and other greenhouse gasses.
 - ▶ High levels of these chemicals that come out of the compressor station via air and water pollution
 - ▶ can directly affect public health, especially during construction: respiratory and nasal impacts, increased allergens, severe headaches, and many more.
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Compressor Stations and State Implementation Plan (SIP)

- ▶ Compressor stations are major emitters of NO_x ppm 2.5. The largest source of NO_x pollution in Hunterdon County is the East Amwell Transco station
- ▶ The average engine from a compressor site puts out 356 lbs of NO_x/hour. Many stations can have five or more engines.
- ▶ NJ has failed to look at the impact of compressor stations to their overall reduction plans for NO_x
- ▶ This leads to higher ground level ozone levels
- ▶ We need to challenge the compressor station based on air permits under SIP due to NO_x etc.



Compressor Station Agencies and Reviews

- ▶ Regional permits
- ▶ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- ▶ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
 - Air permits
 - Water permits
- ▶ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)
 - Lead agency in compressor station review

Pipeline: Agencies and Reviews

- ▶ Army Corps of Engineers
- ▶ Consistency with Coastal Zone Management Act
- ▶ Department of Defense
- ▶ Environmental Protection Agency
 - Superfund sites
- ▶ US Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Can comment on applications at state and federal level for environmental impacts
- ▶ NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and other state agencies.

Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)

- 401 water quality certificates
- Stream encroachment
 - crossings, buffers
- Wetlands
 - fill, crossing, and buffers
 - Section 202 CWA
- Section 303 Water permit
- Flood hazards
 - fill, buffers
- Stormwater
- CAFRA Coastal Program
- Coastal Zone Management Act
- Green Acres
- Statehouse Commission
- Watershed Moratorium Commission
- Water allocation
- NJPDES (water discharge)
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- SHPO (historic reviews)
- Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission
- Other land use permits

Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)

Focus on these permits! These are the places we have the best chance of stopping or slowing down the pipeline

- **401 Water Quality Certificate**
- Stream encroachment
- Flood Hazard
- Wetlands
- Coastal Zone Management
- Threatened and Endangered Species

Example: 70% of people along the PennEast route would not let them on their land to survey. This has slowed down their permitting process. The same pattern can be seen with the Constitution pipeline in New York.

DEP's Proposed Rule Changes

- ▶ Flood Hazard Rules would weaken protections for waterways in NJ.
 - increase development near high-quality streams and other environmentally sensitive areas
 - make it easier to put in pipelines because it provides general permits and permit-by-rules for drilling pipelines under streams.
 - eliminates the SWRPA which protects environmentally sensitive areas from development.
- ▶ Freshwater Wetlands Rules
 - allowing for permits to last for 10 years, which under the law should only be five years before renewal.
 - allowing for utility crossing and maintenance
 - changing the general permits in the Wetlands Rules to be consistent with the weaker, more damaging Flood Hazard Rule general permits. This includes GP2, which makes it easier to build pipelines through wetlands.

The DEP's Rollback Rules

- ▶ The new Flood Hazard and Wetlands Rules will allow for Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) in environmentally sensitive areas.
- ▶ HDD: a method of boring to install underground pipe beneath bodies of water, roads or other environmentally sensitive areas.
- ▶ The DEP determined that HDD does not have environmental impact.
- ▶ In actuality, HDD is dangerous and recently caused water contamination in Pennsylvania
- ▶ By making the drilling a general permit or permit-by-rule, they are claiming it has *de minimus* impact. This removes public comment or say in the process.
- ▶ They are also neglecting to look at cumulative impacts.
- ▶ **We need the next Governor to block the Flood Hazard and Wetlands Rules to protect our environment and help prevent pipelines like this.**

Tracking Fossil Fuel Project Cancellations Across the U.S.

Since the Keystone XL pipeline was rejected by Pres. Obama on climate grounds in Nov. 2015, at least 28 other proposed fossil fuel infrastructure projects in the U.S. have been halted. The reasons are complex, but are mainly a combination of unfavorable economic conditions, environmental concerns and local resistance. In some cases, officials rejected the projects or permits or extended the review process; in others, the companies canceled or delayed their plans.



Progress Against Pipelines

- ▶ The Sierra Club is involved in more than a hundred pipeline fights across the country
- ▶ Despite these being major battles, we have made progress:
 - Northeast Energy Direct withdrew their application due to public outcry and upon learning that they wouldn't get the 401 permit
 - Stopped LNG ports: Port Ambrose, Exxon and BP Greenwich Twp. in NJ
 - We got FERC to deny the Jordan Cove LNG and Pacific Connector Pipeline
 - New Jersey has stopped the Independence and Market Link Pipeline
 - In Georgia, Sierra Club helped pass legislation stopping oil pipelines from getting eminent domain
 - Minnesota BPU recommended rejecting Enbridge's proposal
 - Along with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, we won an important lawsuit against FERC's attempts to segment the Tennessee Gas Pipeline
- ▶ Currently we are filing with Nebraska Public Utilities Commission to stop Keystone and we are also in court against DAPL

Pipelines Denied Due to 401

- ▶ We have successfully stopped projects across the country by denying them 401 Water Quality Certificate permits
 - Constitution- court upheld NYSDEC denial
 - Island East- also denied Wetlands permit by NYSDEC
 - Northern Access- also denied both permits in NY
 - Mountain Valley- permit rescinded in West Virginia
- ▶ We can use this same tactic for the NESE project and others in New Jersey!

Sierra Club vs FERC and Duke Energy

- ▶ Sierra Club won in the U.S. Court of Appeals challenging FERC on the Southeast Market Pipeline (Sabal Trail pipeline) project.
- ▶ Environmental groups and landowners challenged the decision to approve the construction and operation of three new interstate natural-gas pipelines in the southeastern United States without doing a proper environmental analysis.
- ▶ The Court agreed that under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) FERC's Environmental Impact Statement was inadequate because it did not contain enough information on the greenhouse-gas emissions
- ▶ The Court also said that giving out a Certificate of Public Convenience was wrong because the pipeline didn't have all of its permits in place.
- ▶ This decision sets an important precedent and has good implications for PennEast Pipeline because the Court said FERC cannot give a Certificate of Public Convenience without all permits in place from state agencies.
- ▶ **Bottom Line:** FERC cannot approve the pipeline until state agencies like NYDEC and NJDEP weigh in.

We must stand united if we are going to stop this project!



Questions?



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