

NED PIPELINE Q&A

The Northeast Direct (NED) pipeline would bring hydro-fractured (fracked) natural gas from shale fields in Pennsylvania through NY, MA, and NH, to Dracut, MA, and on to Canada for export. Kinder Morgan/Tennessee Gas Pipeline is a private company proposing to construct this 36-inch, high-pressure pipeline parallel to electrical transmission lines through seventeen New Hampshire communities, including Fitzwilliam. It is estimated that NH would receive only 22 percent of the gas, largely for electrical power generation. NED is a main line, which would not provide gas for home heating in our area, as we have no distribution infrastructure. The following questions and answers were compiled and researched by local citizens. The information should not substitute for expert research or legal advice.

• **How would NED impact our air?**

Natural gas is primarily methane, a greenhouse gas contributing to climate change. It becomes 86 times more powerful than CO₂ over 20 years, and 34 times more powerful over 100 years. People living near compressor stations, leaking pipelines, and blow down valves that routinely vent fracked gas report numerous health problems.

<http://epa.gov/climatechange/ghgemissions/gases/ch4.html>

• **Does the proposed route go over water?**

Yes. It would cross 76 wetlands, 66 water bodies, and 42 rivers in NH. Scott Pond and many wetlands in Fitzwilliam would be impacted, potentially reducing water quality in our lakes and streams, endangering wildlife habitat and causing an increase in flooding.

www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/repp
http://nhpipelineawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/RR-10_AlternateRoutes.pdf

• **What other sensitive areas are involved locally?**

The Superfund site in Troy lies within 500 feet of the proposed route. Some 7,692 55-gallon drums, 29,924 gallons of flammable liquid waste, 3,099 cubic yards of sludge and over 26,000 tons of heavily contaminated soil have been removed from this area, but it continues leaching contaminated ground water. Blasting through the granite ledges of Little Monadnock could greatly exacerbate this problem.

<http://www.epa.gov/superfund/accomp/factsheets04/troymills.htm>

• **Are chemicals used to maintain the pipeline right of way?**

KM/TGP may use any of the following chemicals to control vegetation: aminopyralid, chlorsulfuron, dicamba, diuron, flumioxazin, glyphosate, imazapyr, metsulfuron-methyl, triclopyr, or 2-4 D amine. Landowner's wells and vegetation could be affected.

http://www.kindermorgan.com/content/docs/KMC_IVMP.pdf

• **Can our drinking water be contaminated from all the blasting?**

Yes. Blasting chemicals can release regulated or unregulated substances in the groundwater, and the shaking loose of particles and chemical precipitates can increase water turbidity. This can damage household equipment and fixtures, make water unpleasant to drink, and increase concentrations of metals and other contaminants in our water.

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/categories/publications.htm>
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• **How far from the pipeline is it safe to live if there's an explosion?**

The incineration zone for this size pipeline is approximately 1000 ft. from the point of rupture, but there are NO minimum distances from structures required by FERC or DOT.

www.lancasterpipeline.org/s/Fire-hazard-for-gas-pipelines.pdf
<http://www.pipelineawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/Evacuation-Distances-for-Natural-Gas.pdf>

How could the pipeline affect property values?

Studies by appraisal firms have found measurable devaluation of residential properties with easements. Also, the average reduction of value to surrounding land from the so-called fear factor has been as high as 15%.

http://www.forensic-appraisal.com/gas_pipelines_q_a

What activities over two years of construction might impact our economy?

Construction activities include corridor marking, clearing, grading, trenching, stringing, pipe bending and welding, X-Ray, weld coating, coating repair, backfilling, hydrostatic testing, disposal of excess materials, and cleanup. Such activities can create noise, dust, vibrations, disruption, removal of sheds, fences, trees, etc., and result in damage to irrigation systems and wells, crop losses, and other diminution.

http://www.forensic-appraisal.com/valuation_issues

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What changes to the landscape might we see that could affect our property values?

Temporary, site-specific work areas are needed at road, wetland, and water body crossings, and may be created for specialized areas such as steep slopes and agricultural land. Additional acres would also be cleared for placement of equipment, pipe, materials, pipe assembly, and temporary field offices. If horizontal drilling is done (such as under Scott Pond,) a minimum workspace footprint of 200 feet by 250 feet would be needed at the entry and exit points.

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Who would pay for a cracked foundation or contaminated well from blasting/drilling?

All insurers asked said they have no underwriting procedures currently in place for properties crossed by pipelines, but such damage is generally not covered on homeowner's insurance. The owner would need before-and-after proof of damages in order to seek payment from Kinder Morgan. Insurance companies may interpret an easement to a pipeline company as a business use of one's property.

Source: Concord Mutual Group Underwriting Dept.

What else could affect property values after the pipeline begins operating?

Noise, lights and exhaust from compressor stations, tree removal on pipeline corridors and access roads, public fear of explosions and the cost of emergency preparedness all factor in.

<http://www.who.int/peh-emf/meetings/archive/en/paper02shwehdi.pdf>

Where can I find more information about the pipeline?

Below are some links that have lots of information:

<http://nhpipelineawareness.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Northeast-Direct-White-Paper.pdf>

Pipeline Safety Trust: <http://pstrust.org>

Pipeline Safety Briefing papers: <http://pstrust.org/b-papers>

The Landowner's Guide to Pipelines: <http://pstrust.org/2014log>

The Local Government Guide to Pipelines: <http://pstrust.org/2014lgg>

FERC – An Interstate Natural Gas Facility on My Property?: <http://www.ferc.gov/for-citizens/citizen-guides.asp>

From the Law Offices of Carolyn Elefant –Knowing and Protecting Your Rights When an Interstate Gas Pipeline Comes to Your Community: <http://lawofficesofcarolynelefant.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/FINALTAGguide.pdf>

<http://www.clf.org/blog/clean-energy-climate-change/3-things-one-telling-rising-energy-costs/>

<http://www.clf.org/blog/clean-energy-climate-change/governors-infrastructure-plan/>

<http://www.clf.org/blog/clean-energy-climate-change/4-things-natural-gas/>