

What you need to know about the Proposed Gas Pipeline Through Pepperell The Tennessee Gas 'Northeast Expansion Project'

WHAT IS IT?

- Tennessee Gas is proposing to install a 250 mile 36" high-pressure gas pipeline from Wright, NY **THROUGH PEPPERELL AND SURROUNDING TOWNS** to Dracut MA, with several 'laterals' running off of it.
- The pipeline is allegedly needed to meet Massachusetts' current energy constraints and future needs
- The plan is to start construction in 2016 and be in production 2018

HOW ARE PEPPERELL AND NEIGHBORING TOWNS AFFECTED?

- The proposed pipeline would run through several town-owned properties that were purchased for public drinking water supply aquifer protection and properties the town purchased to locate tanks for storage of public drinking water.
- The pipeline would run under the Nashua and Nissitissit Rivers, and would cross through hundreds of acres of both Town Conservation Land and Nashoba Conservation Trust land.
- The project would clear up to a 100'-wide easement for the pipeline to be laid. This would include clear-cutting and blasting. The project would retain a permanent 50' right-of-way along its route potentially kept clear by the use of herbicides and pesticides.
- Compressor stations would be located along the route, with one possibly located in Pepperell. Compressor stations are sited on fifteen acres of land.
- Other local towns impacted would be Ashburnham, Ashby, Townsend, Pepperell, Hollis, Brookline, Nashua, Groton, Dunstable, Tyngsboro and Dracut.

HOW ARE YOU AFFECTED?

- You will pay for it. The pipeline would be paid for by a proposed new tariff, which would pass the cost onto the taxpayers of Massachusetts.
- Lower property values and higher insurance. There is evidence that homeowners living near the pipeline could suffer a decline in property values and an increase in insurance costs
- Conservation land scarred. Large sections of valued conservation land would be permanently cleared
- Contaminated drinking and ground water is a possibility, resulting from pipeline leaks. The 2005 Energy Bill contains the 'Halliburton Loophole', which "exempts gas and oil industries from the Safe Water Drinking Act, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, CERCLA/Superfund law" among others." *everyone'sbackyard.org*
- Risk of explosion, as recently occurred in Dorchester, is a possibility with gas pipelines
- Increased levels of methane. The gas would be 'fracked' gas from the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania. During the process of fracking, hundreds of toxic chemicals are added to the gas during extraction. "According to Former Mobil Oil executive Lou Allstadt, the greatest danger of fracking is the methane it adds to the atmosphere through leaks from wells, pipelines, and other associated infrastructure" - *Ellen Cantarow, Natgas Consulting*

DO WE NEED THIS PIPELINE?

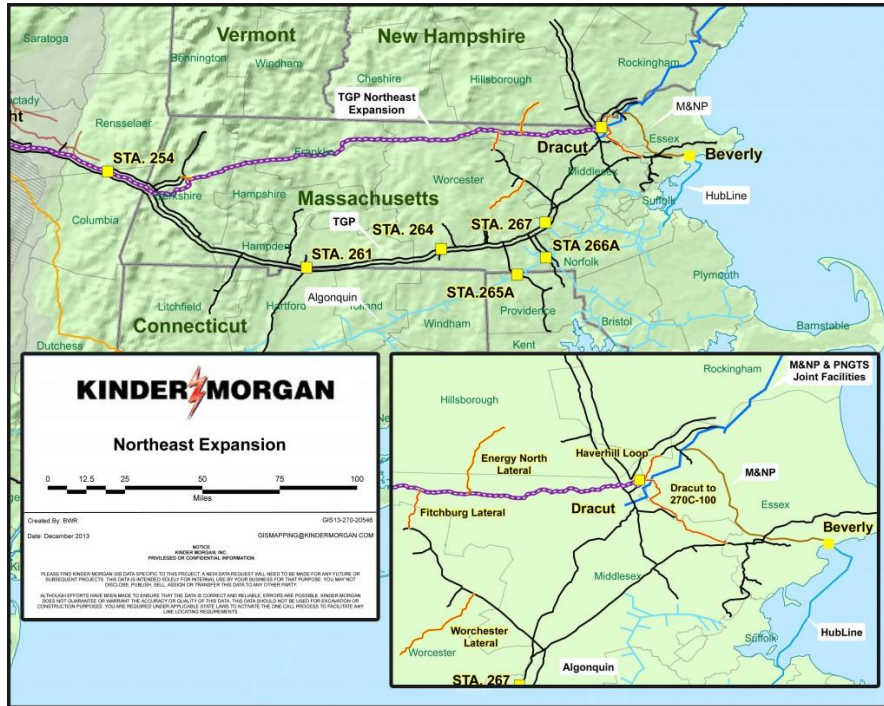
Massachusetts' short and long-term energy needs can be met by addressing current gas pipeline leak issues, by improved market operations and by deploying safer, less destructive and potentially less costly solutions:

- A study by the office of Senator Ed Markey indicated that repairing the existing pipeline infrastructure could recover billions of cubic feet of lost gas and save taxpayers millions of dollars
- When looking at NE's current pipeline capacity a study by consultants Black & Veatch "identified only limited occurrences when load requirements are higher than the contracted capacity and existing peak shaving capacities." The capacity constraints reported in the press can be attributed more to market operations differences between the gas and electric industries, as well as the buying behavior of power generator companies who purchase much of their gas supply on the spot market. When demand increases, as it does in winter, that excess supply may dry up.
- Renewable resources such as wind and solar, in combination with programs to reduce energy demand, can be deployed to meet Mass' future needs.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Learn more! Visit Nashoba Conservation Trust’s web site for more details on the pipeline and its impact www.nashobatrust.org
- If you are a directly affected homeowner (i.e. the pipe will cross your property) do not give Kinder Morgan/TGP reps permission to survey your property. If you have agreed to the survey, you can rescind it with a letter (sample on our web site)
- Attend the planned town meeting with pipeline representatives to voice your concerns. Date TBD
- Contact our elected officials and express your concern. Names and contact details on the Nashoba Trust web site, along with a sample letter.

Main pipeline route – From Upstate NY across Massachusetts



Pipeline’s route through Pepperell with a lateral extending to Nashua NH

