



To: Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
From: the Delaware Riverkeeper Network
Date: September 12, 2016
Re: Public comments posted in response to online article regarding the proposed PennEast Pipeline Project, CP15-558

The following comments were posted on *lehighvalleylive.com* in response to the July 29, 2016 article titled "PennEast will have minimal impact on land, water." The article is written by Pat Kornick, who is identified in the article as a spokesperson for the PennEast Pipeline Co. The comments were retrieved on August 1, 2016.

The full article and comments are available online at:

http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/opinion/index.ssf/2016/07/penneast_will_have_minimal_imp.html#incart_2box_opinion

VillageIdiot 3 days ago

Wow. You must be drinking the kool-aid or own stock in the investing utilities.

Albetha 3 days ago

[@VillageIdiot](#) This is an editorial by a paid spokesperson for the PennEast Pipeline Co.

URS222 3 days ago

Sounds like everything they want you to believe.

VillageIdiot 3 days ago

Also UGI is not expanding their network in Northampton County so it is not enabling more to use gas. It is all about building a gas transmission line. If the gas line can fuel 5 natural gas power plants, it would be smarter and more economical for those plants to be sited in PA closer to the Marcellus Shale and then put on to the electric grid. Makes no sense to build plants in NJ and then pay all of the transmission fees.

VanishingPT 3 days ago

Ironically, many areas where the pipe is being run the homeowners don't even have access to natural gas. Basically, destroying property for the benefit of others.

Fleecologist 3 days ago

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The pipeline leads straight to a shipping port on the Delaware River.
But yeah, the gas will benefit Pennsylvanians. Well, a couple of them anyway.
:-)

[Madam W](#) 3 days ago

[@Fleecologist](#) Can't help but wonder who they'll be selling the gas to...

[FTR](#) 3 days ago

Nice propaganda piece.

[macdadG](#) 3 days ago

The maps available are so vague...

Can someone please furnish a detailed map

Specially, thru Bethlehem township or lower Northampton co.

[macdadG](#) 3 days ago

All the maps provided are extremely vague

[macdadG](#) 3 days ago

Map is so old

It shows old starlight drive in at corner of freemansburg and mine lane....

Been at least 10 years since houses built there

Looks like kids playing at farmersville elementary

Will be 50 yards away at recess

That thing blows and kids are toast

Even in classrooms.....

[macdadG](#) 3 days ago

Seriously,

Running it next to st Luke's Anderson hospital?

And I only looked at one small section of map

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Blasts happen !!

Google it.....

Next to schools make no sense

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Thanks for compliment, calling me Einstein,sweet

So bob smith...u will really appreciate

That brand new Modern High tech pipeline

Yea it blew up in Brooke County West Virginia

You can watch it on Rachel Maddow,

Google it...

Like I said.....boom

[macdadG](#) 3 days ago

Shut down the frackers

Pa gets nothing out of this except

Pollution, unsafe drinking water, health problems for kids and grandkids, pipeline thru our neighborhood w potentially
Catastrophic consequences,,,,,,,,,
Absolutely no benefits

Shamwow Chiapet 3 days ago

"PennEast will have *minimal* impact on land, water"

Something something Flint, Michigan something something.

I find the claim very hard to believe. Define "minimal".

macdadG 3 days ago

Frack penn east
Before they frack you

macdadG 3 days ago

Pat Kornick,
Everyone knows you're reading this...
When the pipeline blows
And the kids,at farmersville get burnt beyond recognition
How long til you shut off the gas
After the fires go out
When can the parents recover the remains

macdadG 3 days ago

Hey Pat,
Hard to make out w fuzzy maps
I'd say about 1 mile from Palmer Elementary
Still in blast zone I'd say.....
At that distance could still be death, burns, internal injuries from blast, hearing loss, breathing problems, soft tissue injuries...
Anything to say to parents now ?!

macdadG 2 days ago

Google... Brooke county, west Va
Watch the fireworks from a brand new pipeline...yea
FlagShare

macdadG 2 days ago

I'm in impact zone

macdadG 2 days ago

Don't want my wife of 34 years burned to death
Don't want kids,w disfiguring injuries
Don't want neighbors melting
Saved lives most of my life
And not letting this,slide,by

[EileenA](#) 2 days ago

[@macdadG](#) If the Penn east pipeline blows, everything in a 1,000 foot diameter will be incinerated. Oh, and your homeowner's insurance won't cover it. I already checked

[EileenA](#) 2 days ago

All lies. The pipeline isn't for local use, it's for exporting gas overseas. PA and NJ will bear all the risks of pollution and explosions while the corporation takes all the profits

[peterkc](#) 2 days ago

[@JDoggLehigh](#) [@EileenA](#) The solution that's best for PA is to stop fracking altogether -- stop polluting our air, soil, & water and stop driving people off their property because their kids and livestock are getting sick & dying.

Leakage from natural gas pipelines & pumping stations is such a huge problem that the total global warming impact of natural gas is the same as if people were burning coal. A leak in California went on for weeks and weeks, until the gas company was forced to take action.

FERC does not live up to its responsibility to protect people and the environment; it has a long record of working for the energy companies, supporting whatever they want (sometimes with some minor tweaks to make it look like they are doing their job).

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

JJM,

Explosions are minimal...

Thanks for proving my point

Explosions are a possibility close to elementary schools

In the path...

Never endanger CHILDREN!!!

Guess it's not your kids

[EileenA](#) 2 days ago

[@JJMck](#) [@EileenA](#) It won't provide many jobs when it's built and local labor won't be used to build it

[Scott Flurer](#) 2 days ago

WOW. Did not see that coming. An opinion from someone who works for the pipeline that the pipeline would be OK. I saw that in the headline.

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Germany has stopped fracking

New, York, state, has stopped frackers

Time to end it here

And pipeline

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Pipeline accidents in USA

3 every 4 days

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 2 days ago

Fracking is destroying the land, air and water in Pa. . . . A horrible man made environmental disaster. Now they want to ship their gas by pipeline and destroy more land. It's all about the money for big business not

the people of this country. Top it off with Corbett giving them a break on natural gas tax extraction. Anybody who pollutes fresh drinking water and deep ground water should face the firing squad.

[EileenA](#) 2 days ago

[@JJMcK](#) Solar and wind farms don't blow up and poison the water supply

[Shamwow Chiapet](#) 2 days ago

[@PPSVII](#) [@EileenA](#) [@JJMcK](#) None of PA's natural gas customers will be benefiting from what travels through this pipeline. I would gladly have UGI remove my gas feed if wind and solar were up and running.

[Shamwow Chiapet](#) 2 days ago

[@PPSVII](#) [@Disgusted taxpayer](#) I would prefer wind or solar but for some reason, while the technology is here, the country is very slow to make it available and affordable to consumers. Unlike natural gas and petroleum products. It's also kind of unfair to call out someone for not walking the walk when the alternatives to natural gas and petroleum products aren't very easy for consumers to find or afford.

I would be driving a fully electric car right now but again there is little support out there right now for those vehicles such as charging stations and choice.

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Frackers benefit no one...
In Pennsylvania
Sending this stuff overseas

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Penn East provides fuzzy map 10+ yrs old
To keep people from being aware....
This is in their neighborhoods, by their kids schools
Right next to hospital

””
Bethlehem township, Palmer and Nazareth
This runs right next to Farmersville elementary, Palmer elementary and st Luke's Anderson hospital
Within 1-2 miles of Freedom and Easton High schools
And Nazareth Middle School..
,,,Leak or explosion these kids,are in trouble
.....
This isn't Montana...this is a densely populated area

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

Pat Kornick,
These natural gases leaks, fires
Can go on for a long time after explosion...
Care to share a worst case scenario?!
.....
Funny no one is worrying about solar panels currently
Next to Moravian Academy killing anyone..
U,can see them from 22 by 33

[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

What are plans for mass evacuation....
,,,,,if farmersville elementary blows up
What exactly would that look like?

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 2 days ago

Pictures of tap water on fire from fracking .



[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 2 days ago

Not only do they pollute the ground water when fracking, they pump the waste water into deep wells to get rid of it. This is a crime and our government officials are looking the other way.

[Shamwow Chiapet](#) 2 days ago

[@Disgusted taxpayer](#) \$ over families.

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 2 days ago

Well water on fire from leaking gas due to fracking.



[macdadG](#) 2 days ago

We do not benefit from fracking or pipeline
Spin it any way you wish but
It increases the danger to our health and safety

[EileenA](#) 1 day ago

[@LordTankidious](#) [@EileenA](#) [@PPSVII](#) Solar and wind are clean energy. Gas produced by fracking is not.

And if I have to pick up the bill with my tax dollars, you can bet I'm going to yell really loudly.
Corporations should clean up their own mess

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 2 days ago

Here is a web site

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LBjSXWQRV8>



[Light Your Water On Fire from Gas Drilling, Fracking](#)

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

For some of you who can't figure out how we got on to fracking from a pipeline comment. You see first they drill for gas and now we need to move the gas, either truck or pipeline.

The body of evidence is growing that fracking is not only bad for the global climate, it is also dangerous for local communities.

And affected communities are growing in number. A new [report](#), released Thursday, details the sheer amount of water contamination, air pollution, climate impacts, and chemical use in fracking in the United States.

For the past decade, fracking has been a nightmare for our drinking water, our open spaces, and our climate, Rachel Richardson, a co-author of the paper from Environment America, told ThinkProgress. Fracking, a form of extraction that injects large volumes of chemical-laced water into shale, releasing pockets of oil and gas, has been on the rise in the United States for the past decade, and the sheer numbers are staggering. Environment America reports that at least 239 billion gallons of water – an average of three million gallons per well – has been used for fracking. In 2014 alone, fracking created 15 billion gallons of wastewater. This water generally cannot be reused, and is often toxic. Fracking operators reinject the water underground, where it can leach into drinking water sources. The chemicals can include formaldehyde, benzene, and hydrochloric acid.

Fracking is also bad news for the climate. Natural gas is 80 percent methane, which traps heat 86 times more effectively than CO2 over a 20-year period. Newly fracked wells released 2.4 million metric tons of methane in 2014 – equivalent to the annual greenhouse gas emissions of 22 coal-fired power plants.

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

Fracking is worst than coal- fired power plants Stop the pipeline slow down fracking.

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

[@richhit](#)

Do your homework before you question any of my comments? Methane gas is far worse than burning coal. The fracking wells leak during and after the drilling.

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

The Environmental Justice League of Rhode Island asserts that a new liquefied natural gas facility at Fields Point would accelerate climate change.

The league's position paper, posted at RIFuture.org, predicts that the storage facility proposed by National Grid would increase emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas.

"While the oil and gas industry and their supporters like to present natural gas as a cleaner alternative or a bridge fuel towards a renewable future, in reality, gas produced by fracking is worse for the climate than coal," the paper says.

So coal is cleaner than natural gas?

The primary source for this material is Cornell University's Robert W. Howarth, who has researched the climate-warming effects of methane that escapes into the atmosphere during the lifespan of fracked gas – from drilling to combustion.

In fracking, water is pumped underground at high pressure to fracture shale to free up gas or oil. Methane is released in the process.

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

More than a dozen areas in the US have been shaken in recent years by small earthquakes triggered by oil and gas drilling, according to a government report released on Thursday.

The man-made quakes jolted once-stable regions in eight states, including parts of Alabama, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma and Texas, according to researchers at the US Geological Survey.

Experts said the spike in seismic activity was mainly caused by the oil and gas industry injecting wastewater deep underground, which can activate dormant faults. A few instances stem from hydraulic fracturing, in which large volumes of water, sand and chemicals are pumped into rock formations in order to free oil or gas.

Oklahoma has been rocked by more magnitude-3 quakes than California, the most seismically active of the lower 48 states, Petersen said. Many studies have linked the rise in small quakes to the injection of wastewater into disposal wells, but the Geological Survey's report takes the first comprehensive look at where the man-made quakes are occurring.

"The hazard is high in these areas," said Mark Petersen, who leads the agency's national mapping project. Oklahoma was not on scientists' radar until recently when the state experienced a spate of quakes, the largest registering a magnitude-5.6 in 2011. Earlier this week, the Oklahoma Geological Survey acknowledged that it was very likely most of the recent shaking was from wastewater disposal.

Many faults awakened by drilling have not moved in millions of years, Geological Survey geophysicist William Ellsworth said.

"They're ancient faults," he said. "We don't always know where they are."

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

Here are a few paragraphs from the clean water act, what a joke, they don't enforce the laws.

The Office of Water (OW) ensures drinking water is safe, and restores and maintains oceans, watersheds, and their aquatic ecosystems to protect human health, support economic and recreational activities, and provide healthy habitat for fish, plants and wildlife.

OW is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, and portions of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Ocean Dumping Ban Act, Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, Shore Protection Act, Marine Plastics Pollution Research and Control Act,

[Disgusted taxpayer](#) 1 day ago

The natural gas industry spent \$8 million lobbying Pennsylvania politicians last year, according to a new analysis from the nonpartisan government reform group, Common Cause/PA, and the Conservation Voters of PA. The project, called MarcellusMoney, is an ongoing effort to track the political influence of Pennsylvania's gas drillers, who have spent \$55.9 million on lobbying

[Millwright455](#) 1 day ago

The pipeline will not serve Hunterdon Cty. If PA wants to move the gas to Mercer Cty keep it in PA and cross the river in Mercer Cty. There at least 2 gas transmission lines going thru My area from a to North Jersey. If they want to go thru an area they should make gas available to the residents in the affected area

[Green Dreams](#) 22 hours ago

[@Josh II](#) - the fact that new scientific information continues to become available doesn't seem to phase you. Science isn't static - what may have been true 5 years ago may well have changed by now - as in scientific knowledge about greenhouse gases. And please explain to the man in Salem Township who was literally catching fire as he was running out of his house just how safe these pipelines are. When you take the industry's bogus claims of need and couple them with the same industry's consistent safety violations, you begin to get a glimpse into the reasons for the unprecedented opposition to PennEast's proposal.

[jerzeybird](#) 1 day ago

FERC admits over and over again throughout the DEIS that they have incomplete data, serious deficiencies in data. And yet, they claim that PennEast will have minimal impacts in their conclusions? As a scientist, I was taught in graduate school to be very skeptical of the abstract (executive summary) and conclusion sections of a scientific paper because these are often laced with misstatements that are invalidated by the actual methods section of the paper. If you read the actual data in the DEIS, you will see that Kornick is playing that game - look at what the rubber stamp agency FERC concludes, but don't look at our actual data.

The full frontal focus of Kornick's piece is to attack the Sierra Club, rather than stick to the facts of the DEIS. It's called deflection; if I make you look over there, you won't see what I'm avoiding over here.

Now paragraph by paragraph:

FERC did NOT examine the potential impacts of geology, soils, water resources, wetlands, vegetation and wildlife, air quality, noise, and cumulative impacts. Because they could not. What the DEIS states almost 80 times, is that PennEast's studies are "on-going". PennEast entered the pre-file application process TWO YEARS AGO. Even in locations where PennEast had survey access, they have failed to complete their required environmental studies. FERC could not possibly have taken a "hard look" - which is required of them by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - with the absence of data put forth by PennEast.

If PennEast really wanted to minimize impacts and maximize safety, they would build the pipe according to NJ BPU standards of a Class 2 pipe. But instead, because they are a federal project that doesn't have to respect the laws of the communities through which they propose to traverse, they will be building the project with Class 1 pipe, in some cases, within 25 feet of homes. And in many communities that do not have fire hydrants.

PennEast doesn't have any employees. All individuals working on the PennEast pipeline are employees of the partner companies. Kornick herself works for Natural Resource Group, one of the PennEast partners. PennEast doesn't have a building. It's a shell company, with limited liability, so they can get out of Dodge in the event of an accident or if they go belly up and abandon the pipeline. Contractors working for PennEast are all from out of the NJ/PA area. We know because we've been observing their license plates for almost two years. Even FERC acknowledged in the DEIS that there would be a limited economic benefit to impacted communities from jobs.

As Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club, Tittel's claims are always about New Jersey, where IN FACT, 70% of landowners have indeed refused survey access and have flooded the FERC docket with comments stating that they will never allow PennEast on their land, and will force PennEast to take them to eminent domain court.

I literally laughed out loud when I read FERC's conclusion that PennEast would improve air quality. Examining the actual data, however, shows that PennEast will emit Nox, Sox, particulate matter, CO and unbelievable amounts of Green House Gases. The USEPA limit for reporting GHG is 25,000 metric tons per year. PennEast's own tables in the DEIS show that it will emit 274,000 metric tons annually. GHG's are now regulated as air pollutants, but PennEast has taken advantage of a loophole in the regulations which will allow it to dump those air pollutants at excessive levels. You can read about it in Section 4, pages 202-209.

FERC's alternative and cumulative analysis was a complete joke. There were about four paragraphs devoted to it. It said absolutely nothing of importance. That is a bold disregard of NEPA, and we intend to hold FERC's feet to the fire about it.

1,600 acres is more than a thousand acres, and so "thousands" of acres is correct. In spite of Kornick's claim that half of it will be restored to pre-construction status, somebody still needs to tell me how clear cutting trees get restored. They don't. Not in our lifetime.

Kornick and her cronies know that nobody except impacted communities will be reading this nearly 1200 page document, and so she believes that if she spins it just right, she can get some PR points for her project.. Communities impacted by this project are facing a rigged regulatory system and a billion dollar corporation who wants to take our land for their profit. You'll notice that Kornick is no longer making the claim that PennEast will deliver natural gas to the PA/NJ area, but they insisted that they would for the first year and half after they came to town. You can expect the rest of what Kornick claims in this piece to go to the wayside in exactly the same way.

Disgusted taxpayer 1 day ago

For all of you who think fracking is safe and doesn't pollute the ground water, move on up near a fracking well and see how long you stay there, and by all means drink that good fresh water coming from your tap.

Disgusted taxpayer 1 day ago

Our officials here in Pa. are bought and paid for by the fracking industry, that is why nothing is being done.

<http://grist.org/climate-energy/pennsylvanians-are-complaining-their-water-is-fracked-up-now-what/>

macdadG 1 day ago

End fracking

End pipeline

We do not benefit

Billion dollar racket

For very few

And corrupt politicians

Ruins our land, water, health,kids and grandkids Health

And years of cleanup

When these paper corporations

Disappear.....

Disgusted taxpayer 1 day ago

Livestock contamination effecting our food from fracking.

<http://www.mintpressnews.com/livestock-falling-ill-in-fracking-regions/211720/>

Disgusted taxpayer 1 day ago

Pennsylvania law makers take money from the fracking industry to look the other way. DEP dragging their feet on complaints from homeowners for years. I cannot contaminate the ground or water, why can an industry pollute or aquifers for centuries to come. Doesn't make any sense. I would rather pay higher heating bills then pollute the ground, air and water.

Green Dreams 23 hours ago

Ms. Kornick, Sierra Club is standing with all the opponents of this unnecessary project to form the "fringe group" you disparage. You know, those who lose sleep at night worrying that they could lose everything and everyone they hold dear if the 36 inch pipeline slated to steal the open space and farms our tax dollars preserved gets built and then blows up. Don't tell us that's hysteria - just remember Allentown, Salem Township, and all the other pipeline fatalities. This "fringe group" which you have used every opportunity to discredit would include those of us with forested areas that, once cut down, will never be usable again in our lifetime and would impact farm income. Don't quote the incomplete draft EIS to us, Ms. Kornick - read the report so you realize just how much information is NOT in there.

The millions of people whose water sources could be compromised if this corporate land grab goes through are by association part of the "fringe group". Don't tell me their drinking water is safe because PE will mitigate, remediate, blah blah blah - read the draft EIS to see that PennEast says it will figure out a solution if and when it happens - code for "too late". The people who actually understand that natural gas is NOT clean energy and that its continued expansion is at odds with this country's stated greenhouse gas reduction plans are part of that "fringe group" Ms. Kornick. While natural gas emits about half as much carbon dioxide as coal, the proposed pipelines would appropriate all of the U.S. emissions budget for natural gas alone. Don't tell me that's exaggeration - look up the article published this last week that quotes Stephen Kretzmann, Executive Director of Oil Change International. He also said "Expanded natural gas production is a bridge to climate disaster." "Our report shows that even if we entirely eliminated emissions from coal and oil, the emissions from the natural gas boom alone would still blow our climate budget." And please understand that instead of your industry's stubbornly clinging to antiquated rules to permit corporate gain, some of us listen to scientists and then act accordingly. If Sierra Club and others now have information about the urgency of this problem, that doesn't make them a "fringe group" - it makes them intelligent and willing to adapt to a changing world's environment, which continues to be harmed by your industry's refusal to move quickly to renewables.

So please, Ms. Kornick, STOP deliberately misleading the public that your self-serving project holds any benefit for anyone other than your corporate members and their shareholders. Please stop disrespecting the people and environmental groups committed to keeping our neighborhoods, our families and our environment safe. Your company's desperate corporate greed is showing, Ms. Kornick.

Madam W 20 hours ago
@Green Dreams WELL SAID !!!

Disgusted taxpayer 19 hours ago

Workers are a dime a dozen when it comes to fracking, Industry doesn't care about their health.

"You'd constantly have cracked hands, red hands, sore throat, sneezing. All kinds of stuff. Headaches. My biggest one was a nauseating dizzy headache . . . People were sick all the time . . . and then they'd get into trouble for calling off sick. You're in muck and dirt and mud and oil and grease and diesel and chemicals. And you have no idea [what they are] . . . It can be anything. You have no idea, but they [Management] don't care . . . It's like, 'Get the job done.' . . . You'd be asked to work 15, 18 hour days and you could be so tired that you couldn't keep your eyes open anymore, but it was 'Keep working. Keep working. Keep working.'"

Workers are exposed to more than 1,000 chemicals, most of them known carcinogens. They are exposed to radioactive waste, brought up from more than a mile in the earth. They are exposed to the effects from inhaling silica sand; they are exposed to protective casings that fail, and to explosions that are a part of building and maintaining a fossil fuel system that has explosive methane as its primary ingredient.

In July, two storage tanks exploded in New Milton, W.Va., injuring five persons. One of the injured, Charlie Arbogast, a rigger and trucker, suffered third degree burns on his hands and face. "You come to the rigs, you do what you do and you don't ask questions," Diana Arbogast, his wife, [told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#). "In Pennsylvania, workers have reported contact with chemicals without appropriate protective equipment, inhalation of sand without masks, and repeated emergency visits for heat stroke, heat exhaustion, yet many of the medical encounters go unreported," [says Dr. Pouné Saberi](#), a public health physician and clinical assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

The oil/gas industry, the Chambers of Commerce, politicians, and some in the media, even against significant and substantial health and environmental evidence, erroneously claim there are economic benefits to fracking. Disregard the evidence that the 100-year claim for natural gas is exaggerated by 10 times, or that the number of jobs created by the boom in the Marcellus Shale is inflated by another 10 times. Focus on Greene County, Pa.

Apparently, included in the "economic boom" is a small pizza shop that was contracted by Chevron to provide large pizzas and sodas to about 100 families living near the gas well explosion that cost one man his life.

[yardwaste](#) 19 hours ago

A pollutant to the land from it's origin to its end. Very bad idea for all that it comes in contact with

[macdadG](#) 17 hours ago

Fracking and pipeline is going to a port in jersey

We didn't have it or need it before now

We don't need it now

It doesn't benefit us

.....but it causes irreparable damage

Possibly Catastrophe