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**West Amwell, NJ**

**February 8, 2015**

## **PennEast Pipeline Comments**

Too little information, too big an impact, and no good reasons

### **Introduction**

We have been residents of West Amwell Township in Hunterdon county, NJ for almost 3 years now. For years prior to that we lived in NYC, enjoying the exciting aspects of big-city living and enduring its side effects such as pollution, over-crowding, and pretending our 700 square foot apartment was all the living space anyone could ever want. We finally decided that we needed a change in our life and started looking for our dream home. We found it in West Amwell - a nice ranch on just over an acre of land in one of the prettiest towns I've ever seen. To the south and east of our property runs many dozens of acres of pristine wilderness, including many acres preserved by our town in conjunction with the D&R Greenway Land Trust organization. Across the street is a lovely horse farm, and there's a another one around the corner on Woodens Lane as well. Down on Goat Hill Road there's a family raising Alpacas, some people down on Valley Road raise chickens, and their neighbor is a sheep farmer. The Howell Living History Farm is also around the corner from us, a 130 acre working farm used to teach how farming used to be done hundreds of years ago, and how old practices can still have applications in today's modern world.

All these features and more are the reason why we choose to live here in West Amwell. It's a scenic rural community dedicated to conservation, simple living, independence and improving the quality of life for ourselves and for our children many years down the road. We have no street lights in most of West Amwell, so the stars leap out at you when you glance up into the night time sky. Our roads were never dug up for sewer systems or municipal water. We get by

on septic systems and individual wells and drainage ditches and natural water ways. I hear some people near Lambertville actually do have natural gas, but most of us heat our homes with either propane or oil. More and more homes and farms are sprouting solar arrays as well.

For enjoyment we love to hike: the various D&R greenway trails including the D&R canal, to the east in the larger Sourland mountain preserve; or further away up in Northern Hunterdon and beyond into the Skylands and New York State. Or we might just go around the corner to Baldpate Mountain and use their nature trails. We love to kayak as well, particularly kayak fishing, and Hunterdon county has some of the best around. When we're not doing any of those chances are you'll see us walking our two dogs, sharing their love of the outdoors and holding them back from chasing yet another fox or squirrel or rabbit crossing our trail.

The animal life here was a surprise for city people like ourselves. We knew there'd be deer, and found out quickly about the rabbits. But then we started seeing exotic birds we'd only seen in nature shows - pileated woodpeckers coming to our bird feeders, gigantic owls hooting at night, raptors gliding over head in search of a meal. The foxes over on Woodens Lane were a BIG surprise. A bear clobbered our fence one evening to get at our bird seed, then clobbered another section of it to get out. We haven't seen any coyotes yet but you can hear them some nights, especially when the moon is full and weather clear.

Hopefully this helps to paint a picture of what life is like in West Amwell Township. The woods and nature and farmland and conservation is an integral part of us.

Another thing we like about our town is not just the rural character and open space, but the fact that the residents want to keep it that way, and they've taken effective measures to guarantee that fact. In conjunction with other public and private entities our Open Spaces committee has spent approximately \$40 million dollars to preserve 5,500 acres of local farm and woodlands. Legally these properties are setup so that they are supposed to be protected from development in perpetuity.

Now we find out the PennEast pipeline will be built across the street from our house. Our little rural town with no municipal water, no street lights, and no municipal sewer system will now get a 3 feet wide, high pressure natural gas super highway right through it. Our legally protected open spaces? Apparently those protections can be broken, at least for this pipeline.

## Physical Properties of Pipeline and Route

The proposed pipeline is 36", or *three feet*, in diameter. PennEast FAQ says the maximum operating pressure will be 1480 pounds per square inch, and will carry a billion cubic feet of gas a day.

The pipeline will be over 100 miles long.

It will be constructed of steel, with individual sections welded together on-site. The "survey corridor" is 400 feet wide. The final construction area will require up to 125 in width, and the easement at the end of construction will require 50 feet width. The area has to be kept permanently denuded of trees and shrubbery. The ditch will be approximately 8 feet deep.

They'll have to blast in many places because of the diabase nature of much of the Sourlands, including Goat Hill, Baldpate Moutain, Belle Mountain, etc.

The route set in January 2015 is set to go along existing power line easements. However, since the pipeline can't go right under the power lines it appears that it will be necessary to widen the easement in many areas.

Sadly that easement was done before many environmental laws were in place. It would never have been permitted if JCP&L applied for it today.

The route runs very close to schools, such as West Amwell Elementary. Parks, such as Hewitt Park. Homes all along the route. Cuts through farmland. And runs through many category 1 streams. Right next to golf courses, such as the Jack Frost Golf Club.

It goes through legally permanently protected land including Open Spaces, Preserved Farmland, DEP preserved lands, and land trusts.

It runs within a few hundred feet of drinking reservoirs. It runs through a county where nearly all residents rely on private wells for their water and private septic systems.

These are facts and are not in dispute. The only question is what is the impact of these facts on our community? And is this pipeline worth those impacts?

We believe the answer to this is a resounding "NO".

*Note: In this document we've included screen shots of pipeline route locations using Google Maps. The Pipeline survey corridor is shown with parallel purple lines. The route data comes from the .kmz file which PennEast supplied publicly.*

## Issues of Concern

### Who benefits?

The PennEast General Project Description lists several companies that will utilize gas coming from the pipeline but there seems to be no definitive breakdown of actual end consumers. In their FERC filing PennEast states that the Project is designed to bring lower cost natural gas to homes and businesses in Pennsylvania and New Jersey”. They repeatedly state that this pipeline is for the benefit of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Further more they say that the pipeline will carry 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day, enough gas for 4.7 million homes.

Let’s test PennEast’s assertions with some data. Here’s some facts taken from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (<http://www.eia.gov/>).

The entire state of NJ has approximately 2.6 million natural gas residential consumers. All of Pennsylvania also has about 2.6 million natural gas residential consumers. Combined that’s 5.2 million residential consumers.

Now let’s compare those numbers. PennEast’s pipeline will deliver enough gas for 4.7 million homes. But there are only 5.2 million homes on natural gas today. This pipeline in fact has enough capacity to supply 90% of existing residential consumption. If this is PennEast’s main justification then it fails miserably. We clearly don’t need an extra billion cubic feet of natural gas flowing into PA and NJ for houses. Unless we somehow double the number of natural gas customers, which seems doubtful (to put it mildly).

So the 4.7 million homes number is a bit of marketing fluff. Maybe we should just look at all natural gas consumption in both states. [eia.gov](http://eia.gov) has that data too. In total NJ averages 1.8 billion cubic feet consumption across all users, commercial and residential. PA averages just under 3.0 billion cubic feet a day in total consumption. So that’s a total of 4.8 billion cubic feet used by both states per day.

These numbers still don’t add up. The PennEast pipeline all by itself is vast over kill for this consumption. It’s over 20% of our total consumption in two very populous states. If that’s PennEast’s justification, then they fail again.

Look on [eia.gov](http://eia.gov) at the consumption graphs. NJ 's consumption has been flat for decades. It simply doesn't need any more natural gas coming into it. PA's is increasing, but not nearly enough to justify this pipeline (and certainly not to justify it running into NJ!).

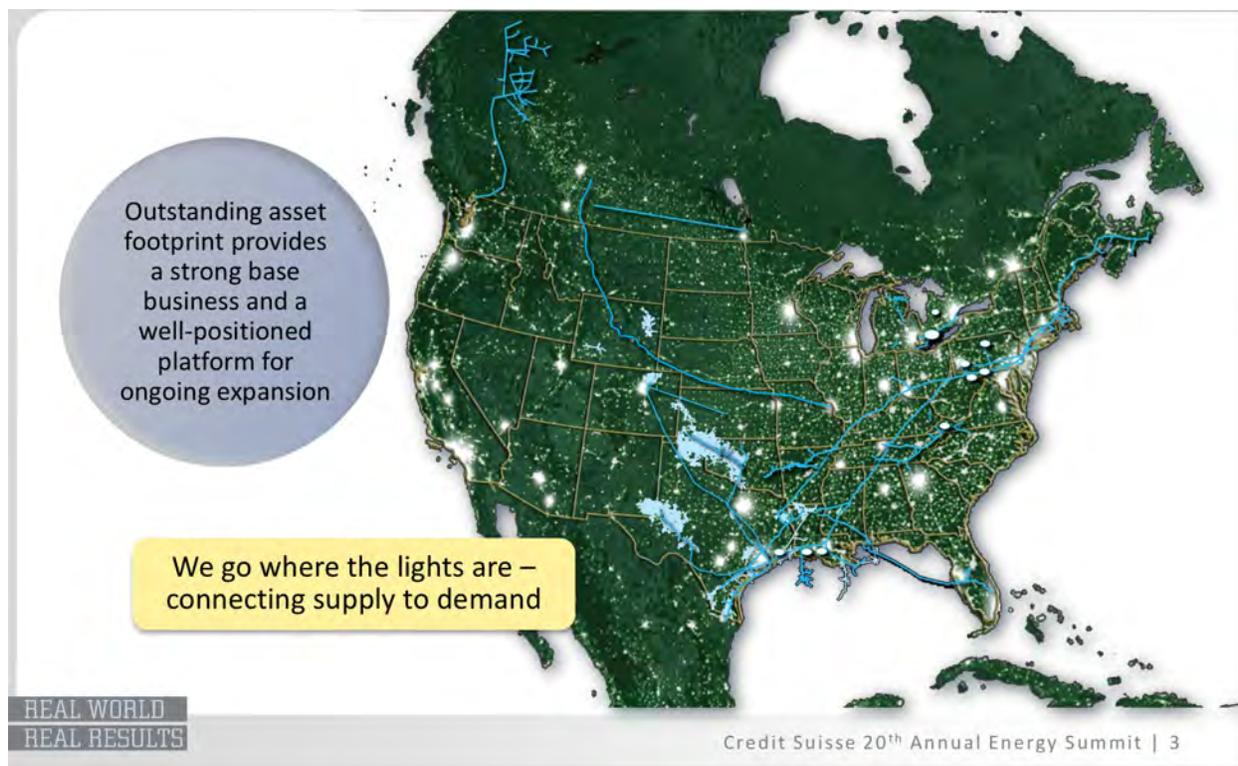
Their only reasonable justification seems to be price volatility. According to [eia.gov](http://eia.gov), it's true that there was some price volatility, and agrees with PennEast's graphs in the filing. However - the data only shows about 10 days of extreme volatility in a 5 year span from 2009 to 2013. 10 days out of 1825 days is a farce. How can you justify the massive ecological, monetary, and human costs this pipeline will exact from us to smooth out volatility over 0.5% of days? You simply can't.

In reality if you look at the markets it's clear that PennEast wants to get this gas far away from its source in Marcellus. It wants to get it where gas is expensive, so they'll maximize profits. With that aim NJ and PA are not the prime targets for this gas. It's other markets north of us, south of us, west of us, and over seas.

Their FERC submission mentions some local NJ and PA companies, but fails to highlight the national players. One of them is Spectra Energy. Their recent presentation at a Credit Suisse conference highlights their plans for PennEast and other pipelines:

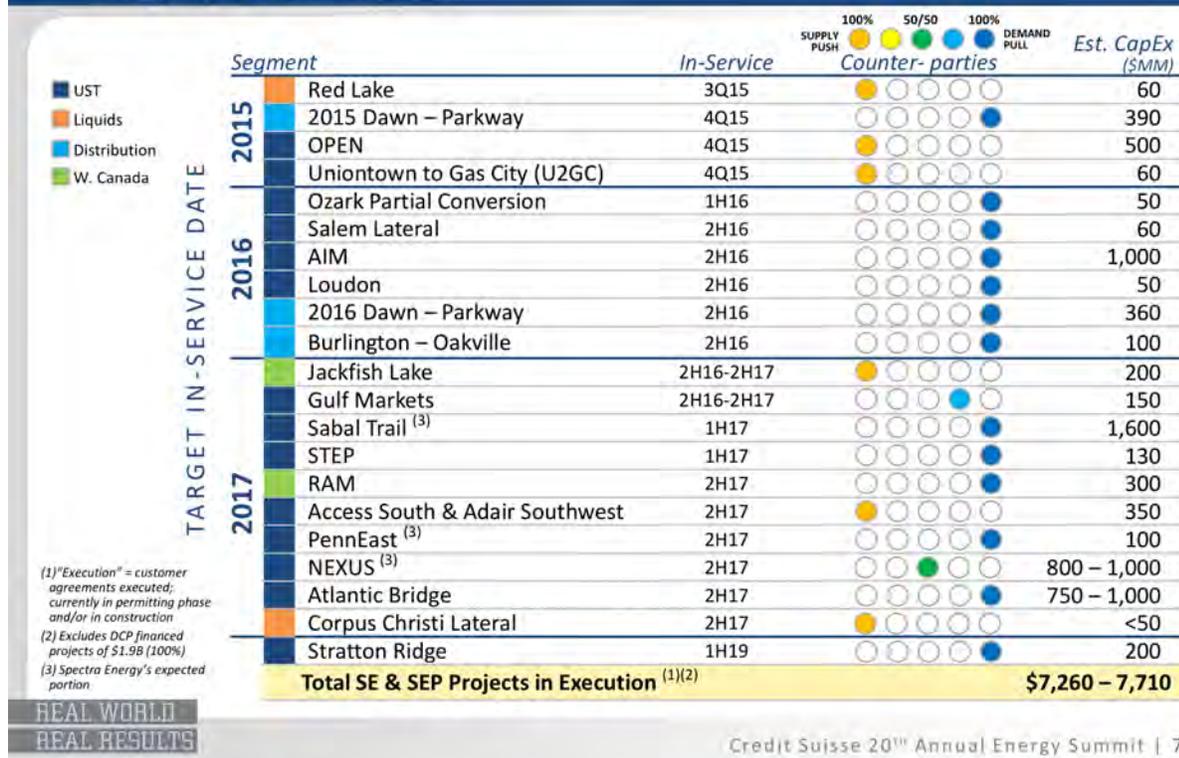
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In their presentation they tout their ability to route gas “where the lights are” - all across the U.S.



PennEast is just one of many pipelines they plan on using to continue saturating an already over-saturated natural gas market:

## \$7+ Billion Projects in Execution <sup>(1)(2)</sup> - Largely Demand Pull



Another company buying gas from PennEast is Crestwood. They plan on building yet another pipeline to connect to PennEast to get it to broader markets:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20141020006631/en/Crestwood-Midstream-Partners-Announces-Successful-Non-Binding-Open#.VO9ePELF2D0>

From that press release:

"HOUSTON--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--Crestwood Midstream Partners LP (NYSE: CMLP) ("Crestwood") announced today that its subsidiary, Central New York Oil & Gas Company LLC ("CNYOG"), which owns the North-South and MARC I pipelines and the Stagecoach storage facility, has successfully concluded a non-binding open season to solicit interest for firm transportation of natural gas on a proposed new 30-mile pipeline extending CNYOG's system to

*the proposed PennEast Pipeline, a new interconnect on Transco's Leidy Line, and Transco's proposed Atlantic Sunrise Expansion Project in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Crestwood has received non-binding indications of interest for firm transportation on the proposed MARC II Pipeline in excess of 700 million cubic feet per day ("MMcf/d").*

*The MARC II Pipeline would provide additional market access for gas received from multiple receipt points into the existing CYNOC system including the Stagecoach storage facility, major gathering systems owned by Southwestern Energy and Access Midstream Partners, and both the Millennium and Tennessee Gas Pipeline interstate natural gas systems. CYNOC's existing system has the capability to receive over 2.5 billion cubic feet per day ("Bcf/d") of Marcellus supply and is in the process of adding a third interconnect with Access Midstream Partners' gathering system in 2015 that will expand its total Marcellus supply access to approximately 3.3 Bcf/d. Crestwood plans to conduct a binding open season for the MARC II Pipeline in early November.*

*"The MARC II Pipeline project will provide an important and cost-effective link between abundant regional supplies of natural gas in North Central Pennsylvania **and growing demand in the Mid-Atlantic and New England markets,**" stated Heath Deneke, President of Crestwood's Natural Gas Business Unit. "With connectivity into Crestwood's existing CYNOC system, which currently receives more than 1.7 Bcf/d of natural gas and will have access to over 3.3 Bcf/d of Marcellus supply from various directly-connected gathering systems and Tennessee Gas Pipeline's 300 Line, the MARC II Pipeline would provide a reliable long-term supply alternative to these markets."*

Here we see pipelines begetting pipelines. And gas flowing to New England and vague "Mid-Atlantic" areas. None of this is mentioned in the PennEast filing.

The final piece of this puzzle is the current state of the natural gas market overall. In a word, it's terrible. Gas pricing have been plunging, there's a glut of gas and not enough consumers to use it. Here's an article from research firm Sterne Agee on the subject:

*"Things are already ugly in U.S. natural gas markets, and its only going to get worse, according to research firm Sterne Agee. SA analysts Tim Rezvan and Truman Hobbs argue that the double whammy of continued supply growth amid weak demand mean that natural gas prices are still not done dropping, and slash 2015/2016 estimates across the board for the natural gas firms in their coverage universe.*

*Rezvan and Hobbs lower their 2015/2016 Henry Hub natural gas forecast "to \$2.70/\$3.20 per mcf from \$3.40/\$3.70. We also trim our 2015/2016 WTI forecast to \$58/\$65 from \$63/\$70. The glut of oil and gas in the U.S. will require a lengthy, at times painful, healing process for coverage companies and E&P investors. Investors should remain bottoms-up focused,*

commodity agnostic, and prepared to look beyond 2015 gas price woes."Natural gas prices likely to stay depressed well into 2016"

So why do we need this pipeline again? There's a glut of natural gas, prices have never been lower, and the pipeline is not sized to benefit NJ and PA but instead is sized to be shipped all over the country - and possibly over seas.

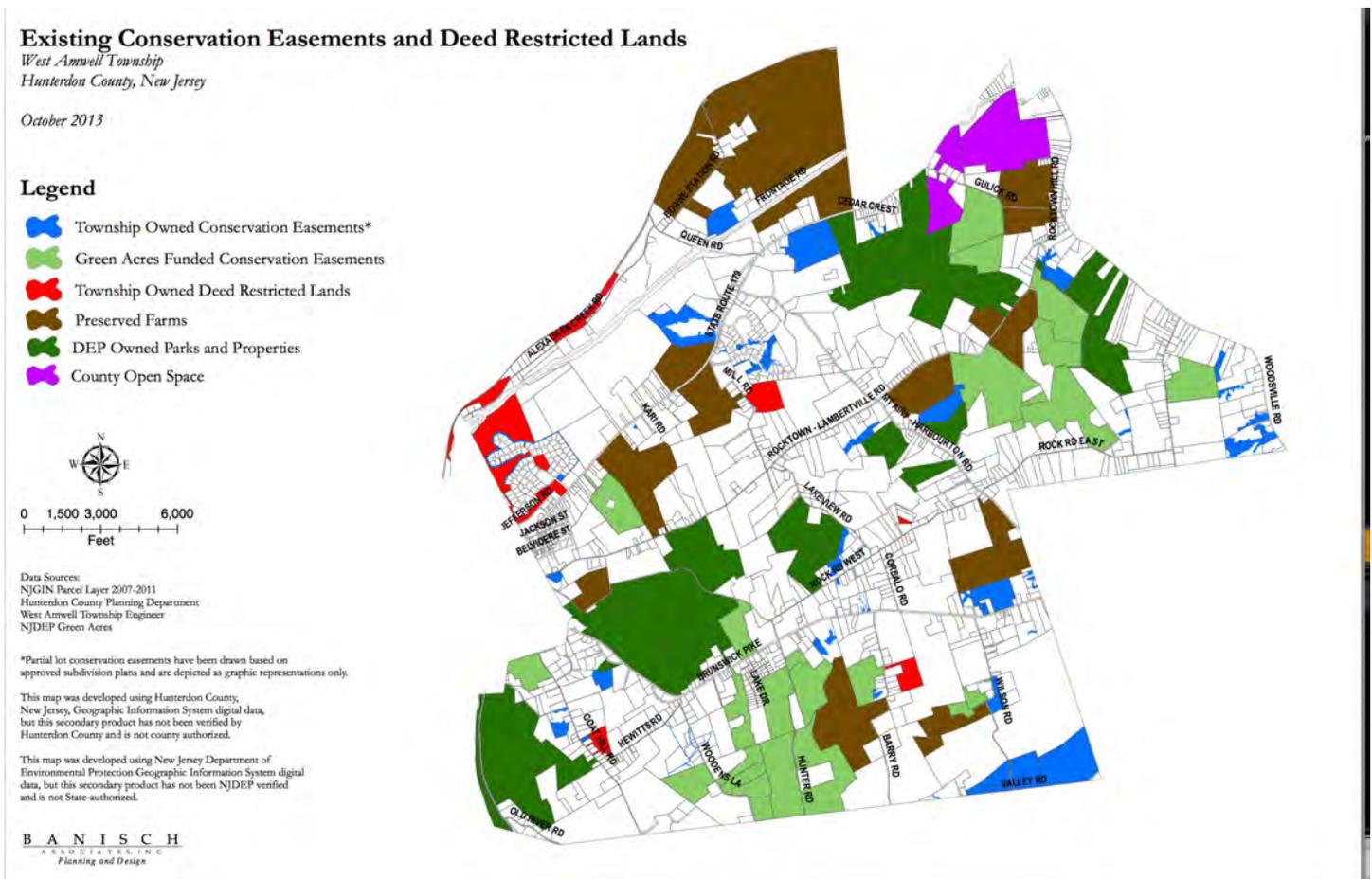
As a final insult to communities affected by the PennEast pipeline, it's not even the only pipeline being considered. The Leidy Southeast expansion has already been approved, and there are several other pipelines being proposed. This makes PennEast's justification look even worse.

In plain words, the PennEast justification in their FERC filing is wrong. It is full of inaccuracies and misdirection and does not provide a reasonable rationale for building this pipeline.

## Guaranteed Open Spaces?

Take a look at the open spaces map of West Amwell:

[http://www.westamwelltp.org/filestorage/150/307/conservation\\_easement\\_map\\_10-01-13.pdf](http://www.westamwelltp.org/filestorage/150/307/conservation_easement_map_10-01-13.pdf)



The latest PennEast preferred route cuts right through a number of preserved farms, conservation easements and otherwise preserved “open spaces” land. In total \$40 million dollars has been spent over the years to preserve 5,500 acres of land from development. To keep farms as farms, woodlands as woodlands, and wetlands as wetlands *in perpetuity*. This pipeline violates those guarantees and goes against the express will of the people of West Amwell, Hunterdon County, and the state of NJ at large. It’s even going through NJ DEP land. This is an outrageous violation.

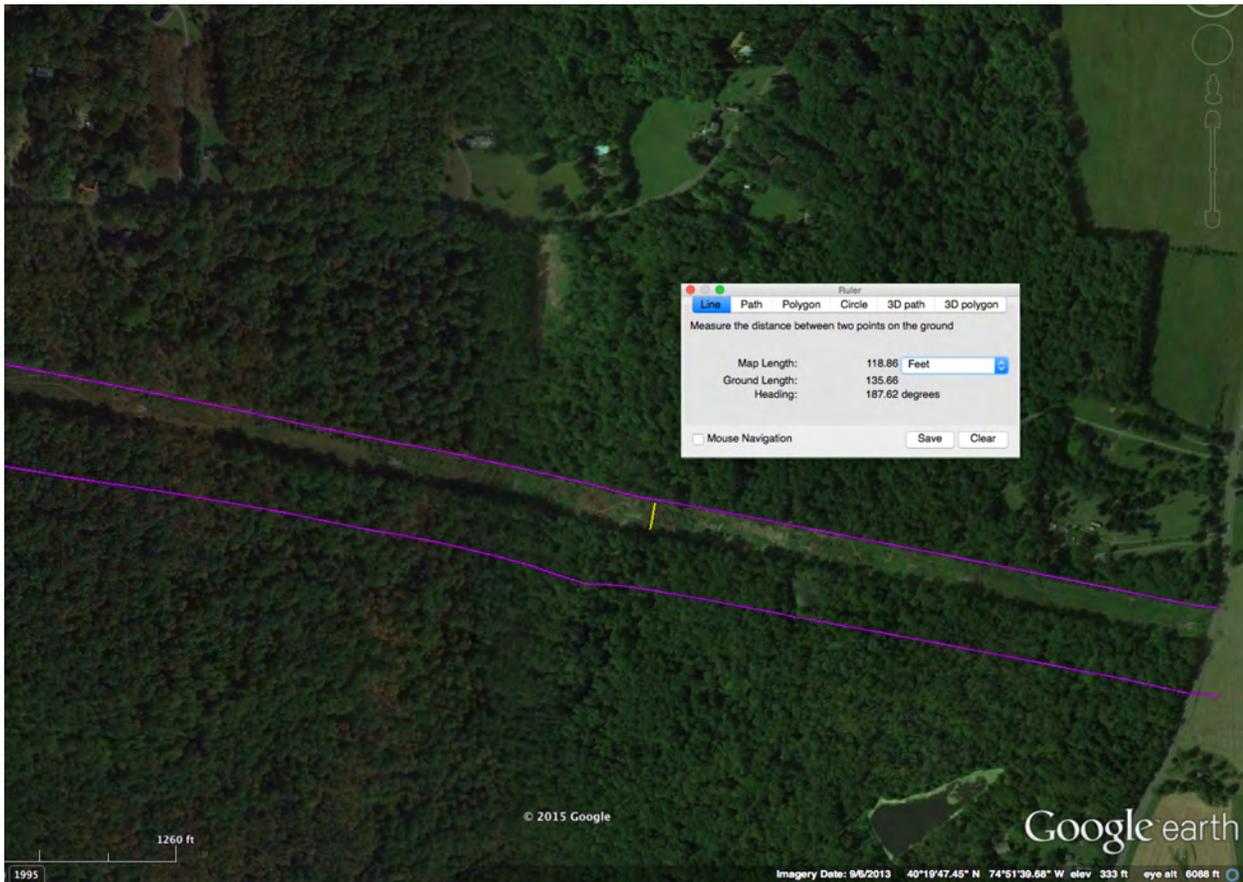
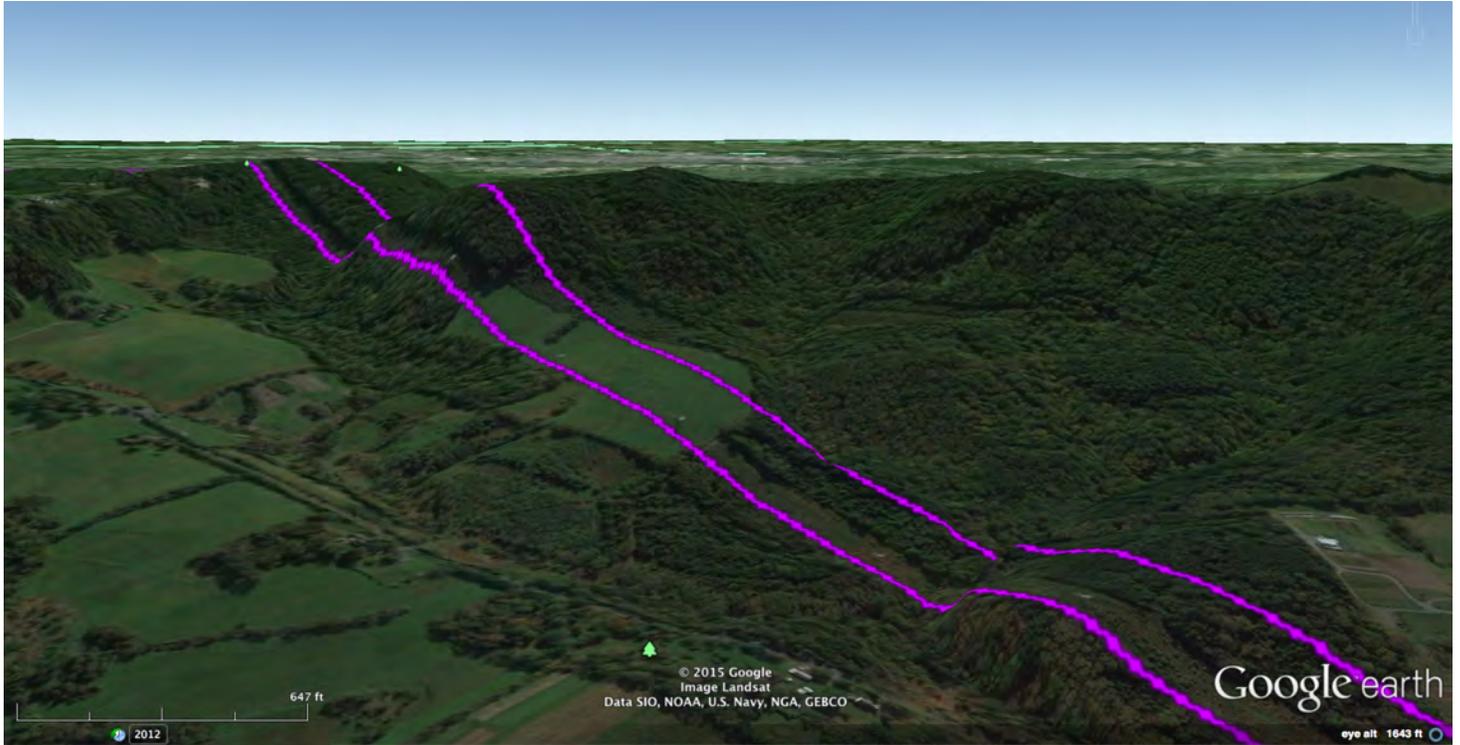
### Ecological Impact

This pipeline goes through a number of ecologically sensitive areas, preserved areas and parks. The Washington Crossing Audubon Society has stated that the pipeline “would inflict far-reaching environmental damage through the grasslands of Hunterdon and Mercer Counties, the Sourland Mountain and along the alternate Baldpate Mountain Route”.

Likewise the Sourland Conservancy states: “The Sourland Conservancy Board of Trustees does hereby object to the design and construction of a 36 inch pipeline passing through and under West Amwell Township (Hunterdon County) and Hopewell Township (Mercer County). The construction and operation of the pipeline will significantly damage streams, wildlife habitat, existing farm operations and the quality of life in West Amwell Township and Hopewell Township”.

You can see the impact on Baldpate Mountain is going to be severe. It’s very mountainous with a diabase base, which means extensive blasting is going to have to be used to get the pipeline down to 7’-8’ required. Look at the terrain map of the pipeline route below:

You can see from this terrain map from Google Earth that the pipeline is going up and down very steep slopes.



Google earth also shows the existing easement is not big enough to collocate the pipeline along (see screenshot on previous page). Since the pipeline can't be laid directly under the power lines, it'll need to be some distance to the side. PennEast said it'll need 100' or slightly more in some areas for construction, which means they'll be clear cutting a bigger portion of Baldpate.

In terms of other impacts, Professor Tullis C. Onstott of Princeton University has stated that the pipeline is running right through an arsenic hot spot in NJ. His research indicates that the proposed construction techniques for the PennEast pipeline will result in an especially toxic form of arsenic to be released in our water, and will make its way into our streams, private wells, and major water ways such as the Delaware River. More on water safety below.

## Water safety

What studies have been done by PennEast on water safety in conjunction with this pipeline, both in terms of private drinking water wells and surface water features such as creeks, ponds, lakes, rivers, etc?

In 2003 West Amwell partnered with the Stonybrook Millstone Watershed Association to perform an assessment of West Amwell's policies and plans towards protecting its watersheds, a copy of this assessment is available here:

**[https://thewatershed.org/pdf/Advocacy/TakingTheNextStepsReports/7.1 West Amwell Municipal Assessment.pdf](https://thewatershed.org/pdf/Advocacy/TakingTheNextStepsReports/7.1%20West%20Amwell%20Municipal%20Assessment.pdf)**

As indicated in this assessment, the majority of homes in West Amwell use private wells for their water. This means land use and water quality of special concern to our town's residents; there is no central water authority delivering water to us and ensuring that it's safe. We can only work together to ensure our shared infrastructure keeps our water supplies safe. Towards this end the assessment recommended a number of policies to keep our water safe now and for the foreseeable future.

The pipeline seems to directly violate a number of these policies, and would therefore seem to us to be putting our water safety in jeopardy. Some of these recommendations include:

- “Adopting an ordinance that requires commercial development to include landscaping for wildlife. Developing a Landscaping/Tree Preservation ordinance”
- “ Reviewing current steep slope protection ordinance, to ensure development does not take place on steep slopes, particularly in the Sourland Mountain region.”
- “Maintenance of the stream bank vegetation with native species trees,shrubs
- and grasses and a “no-mow” policy”

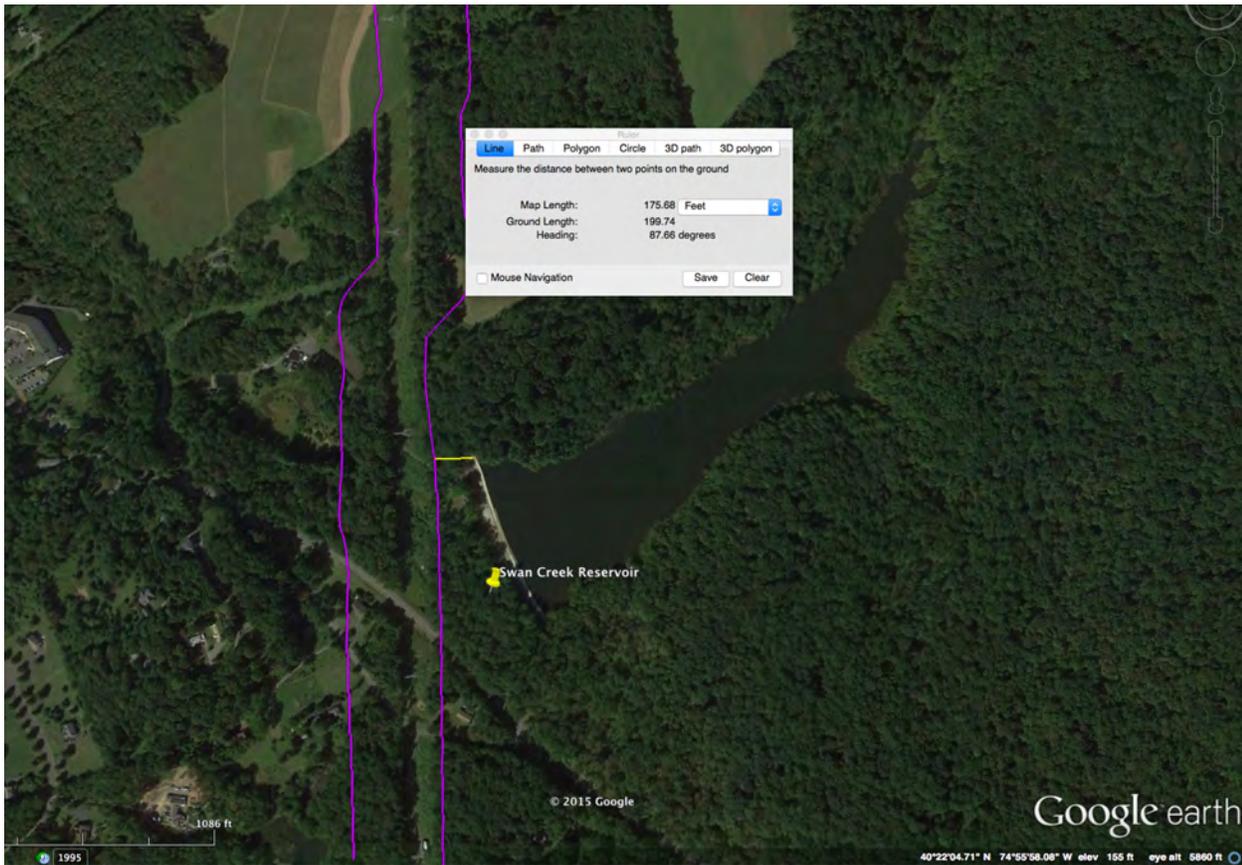
The pipeline seems to not take these concerns into consideration at all. In several areas of West Amwell the proposed pipeline route goes over steep slopes, and construction and ongoing maintenance of the pipeline will require a large cleared area that will be detrimental water quality and the ecosystem.

The assessment also mentions Alexauken Creek, Swan Creek, and Moores Creek as particularly important stream networks that should be kept as pristine as possible to help maintain local water quality as well as supporting a healthy ecosystem. The PennEast pipeline crosses all three of these, in addition to crossing the Delaware River.

On top of this the pipeline seems to be within a couple of hundred feet or less of the Swan Creek reservoir which provides drinking water to Lambertville.

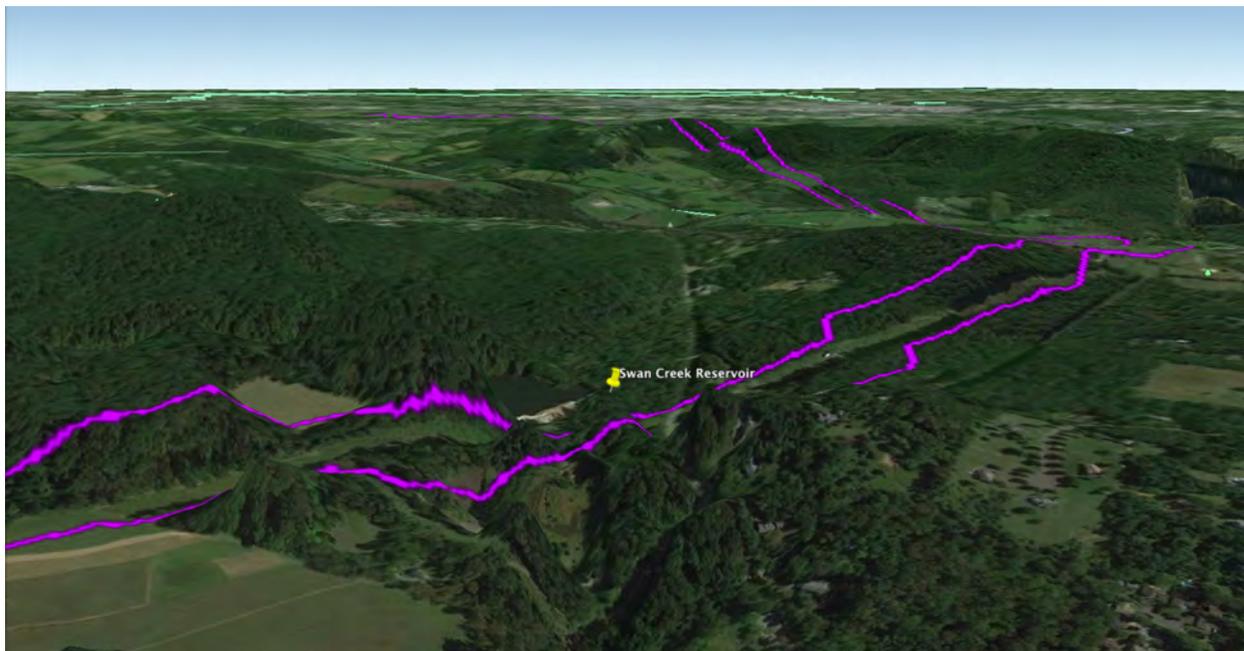
And as the final *piece de resistance*, due to the diabase rock that makes up much of the area PennEast is going to have to blast to get the pipeline down to the required 7’-8’ feet. They’ll be

blasting within a couple of hundred feet of the Swan Creek Reservoir (see below), which as we



mention is the primary drinking water source of Lambertville NJ.

You can see from the previous screen shot just how close the survey corridor is to Swan Creek Reservoir. Even worse, it's in a very hilly area with diabase at or very near the surface:



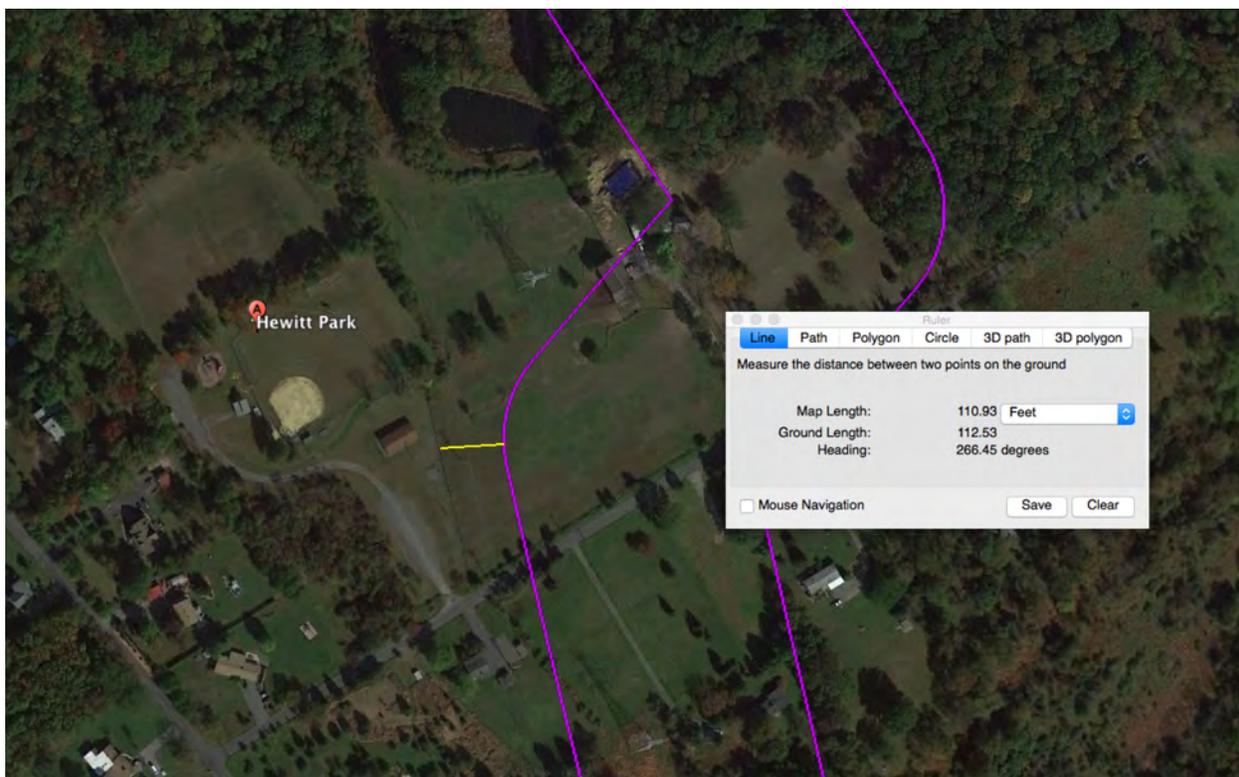
Because of the diabase nature of the area they're going to be doing a lot of blasting. Blasting near people's private wells. Blasting through arsenic tainted areas. Blasting near schools and parks.

Do we need to state explicitly just how bad this is for our community?

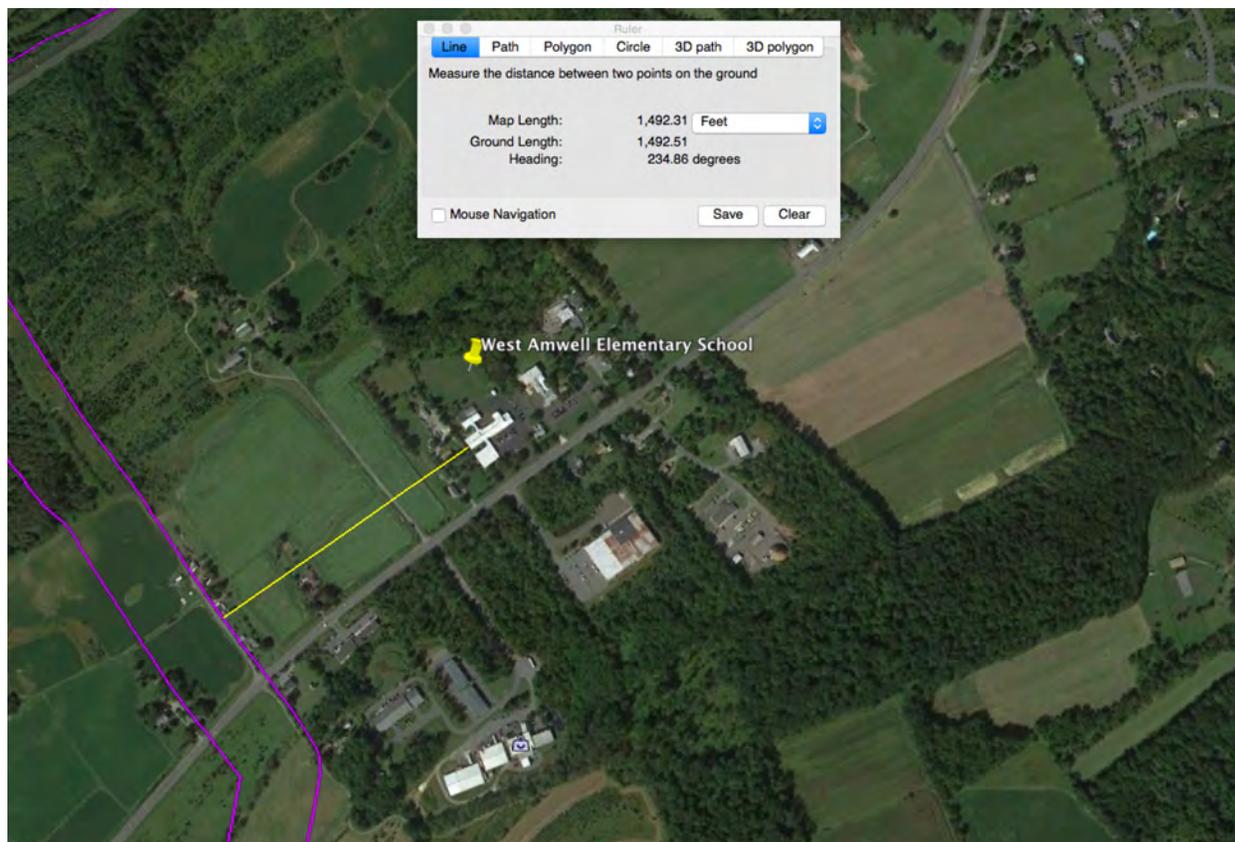
### Proximity to residential homes and other population centers

This 3-foot diameter, high pressure pipeline advertised to carry 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas every day, will be in operation 24/7 within mere feet of some people's homes. Our horse farm neighbor we mentioned? The pipeline is being routed right around his house and according to the Penn East Maps will be within a couple of hundred feet of his home.

Next door to that horse farm? Hewitt Park. This park is used from Spring to summer primarily by the local elementary schools for sporting events such as baseball and soccer. The survey corridor comes within less than 150 feet of the park (see screenshot below).



The survey corridor also comes within 1500 feet of the West Amwell Township Elementary School and ESC school across the street (see below).



In Pennsylvania I see the pipeline route cutting through shopping center parking lots. I see the compressor station being built within a thousand feet of a golf course.

I realize a risk of pipeline rupture is minimal - but minimal is not the same as zero. A pipeline of this size exploded in the 90s in Edison NJ and took out an entire apartment complex. The same could happen with this pipeline despite safety measures. It is shocking to us that this pipeline is not being built away from people's homes and population centers.

### Crossing driveways and access roads

In several areas the pipeline cuts across private access roads and the driveways of individual homes. What are farms and property owners to do while construction is ongoing? We have

neighbors down the block who built a home last year across the street from the horse farm. They just had a baby a few months ago. Now the pipeline is slated to cut right across their property and possibly their driveway. How are they supposed to get into and out of their home with pipeline construction going on?

I see more of the same on houses on Valley Road, and farmlands north of us in Stockton, Delaware Township, etc. Why on earth should a pipeline company be allowed to tear up people's driveways or access roads, completely robbing them of their ability to enter and leave their property?

### Impact to local emergency responders

West Amwell has an all-volunteer fire department. This is quite common in Hunterdon County, many towns have volunteer only departments to save money and keep our taxes low. These departments are also strapped for cash and stretched too thin, and can easily be overwhelmed by large incidents. To make matters worse many towns like West Amwell are strictly on well water, so there is no fire hydrants and no water mains they can tap into to fight fires. It's strictly what they can carry in their pumper trucks.

In the unlikely event this pipeline was breached and explosion occurred, it would be absolutely devastating to our area and it would be beyond the ability of local fire fighters to contain. Will PennEast pay for a vastly bigger fire fighting force for West Amwell and the other communities along the pipeline route? Or must municipalities face the choice of spending millions of dollars to protect its residents - or do nothing and hope for the best?

### Is co-location along power lines a good idea?

The most recent route proposed by PennEast takes advantage of existing power line easements and will co-locate the pipeline along the same routes in many areas (including ours). Is it safe to put a high pressure natural gas pipeline right next to high tension power lines? If any accidents do occur and the pipeline ruptures, how much will that disaster be multiplied if it takes out the high tension lines along with the pipeline?

At the same time, from what I've read they cannot place the pipeline directly below or right next to the power lines. There's a minimum safe distance so the voltage doesn't interfere with the

cathodic protection system to prevent the pipeline corrosion. From what I can see this is going to require widening the easement in many places. This means people impacted by the original power line easement are going to lose even more land for PennEast's pipeline.

### What about Alternate Energy Sources?

Penn East's web site has a fact sheet that links to a document entitled "Environmental Stewardship" here:

**[http://penneastpipeline.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PennEast\\_Conservation.pdf](http://penneastpipeline.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PennEast_Conservation.pdf)**

The document goes into detail on how energy companies are using conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy sources to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. It talks a great deal about solar energy:

"Public Service Electric and Gas Company (PSE&G) is *investing more than \$1 billion to support solar energy development in New Jersey*. This investment will bring more than 300 megawatts-DC of solar energy to homes and businesses."

"South Jersey Industries' subsidiary Marina Energy is a leading solar project developer in New Jersey. Marina, in a partnership with DCO Energy, formed Energenic in 2007 to design, develop and operate highly efficient energy projects. *Combined, Marina and Energenic have constructed solar projects that produce more than 95 megawatts of solar-generated electricity at more than 70 locations throughout New Jersey.*"

"Another example is a solar power park solution for Crayola Company. UGIES partnered with Crayola to design, build and construct a major solar power project in Easton, Pa. The 15-acre solar park consists of nearly 28,000 fixed photovoltaic solar panels that produce 2.5 MW of green power for Crayola's manufacturing facility. Construction was completed on schedule, and the facility has been generating electric power since May 2010. UGIES collaborated with Crayola to expand the facility, further expanding the crayon-manufacturer's use of solar power. A

new solar panel technology is employed that significantly reduces the number of panels and footprint of the facility.

***This solar-powered project annually eliminates an estimated 1,900 tons of greenhouse gases that would have been released if the electric power was produced using traditional fossil fuels "***

The PennEast conservation document also talks about helping customers reduce waste:

"Since its inception in 2006, ***CTP has helped customers of New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG), NJR's regulated subsidiary, reduce their natural gas usage by 271 million therms, a savings of \$278 million – the equivalent annual energy consumption of 131,099 homes.*** That impressive reduction in energy use prevented the release of nearly 3.2 billion pounds of CO2 into the atmosphere".

"South Jersey Gas (SJG) was one of the first utilities in the country to implement an innovative Conservation Incentive Program (CIP) rate structure. The program encourages all its customers to use natural gas more efficiently by showing them how they can reduce consumption. CIP, between October 2006 and June 2014, ***helped customers reduce their natural gas usage by a total of 42.2 billion cubic feet, enabling them to save \$453.8 million in energy costs.***"

The quotes above seem to be in direct contradiction of the stated purpose of the Penn East pipeline. The PennEast partners are citing their achievements in increasing solar installations and lessening our reliance on fossil fuels. They brag about reducing demand for natural gas by billions of cubic feet and saving thousands of tons of greenhouse grasses from being created.

And then they turn around and ask to build a pipeline to bring 1 billion new cubic feet of gas a day into the area. Does this make any sense at all?

### How can we scope a changing project?

PennEast keeps changing materially important aspects of the pipeline plan. The 30" pipeline became a 36" pipeline in short order. The original route was changed within weeks of

scoping meetings commencing. More interconnects were added in January as well. The number of compression facilities has changed.

How can the FERC seriously ask communities to evaluate these proposals when PennEast keeps changing them? How can we have a scoping meeting if the scope keeps changing?

In addition to being patently unfair this constant plan churning has a real economic cost on our communities. Townships up and down the pipeline route has been researching the impact it's going to have on them, along with environmental, cultural, and historical organizations. Each time PennEast makes a material change they have to start their impact assessments all over again. This costs us time and money. Going from 30" to 36" is a big deal. Changing the route by miles is a big deal. The FERC should have feedback mechanisms to discourage or outright punish organizations that keep changing the playing field.

In light of PennEast unable to make a concrete and well-thought out pipeline proposal that doesn't need major fixes every few months, FERC should do the obvious and say "No build".

### Road closures and traffic impact

Within two miles of our house the route crosses 179, Rocktown Lambertville Road, Route 518, Hewitt Road, Goat Hill Road, Valley Road, and Pleasant Valley Road. What is Penn East's plan for crossing these roads? Have they done studies on the traffic impact? 518 and 179, for example, are major arteries in our area.

For that matter have they done studies on the impact to local residents? Hurricane Sandy showed us just how few roads there are in this area, and how multiple road closures can seriously impact people's ability to get around. We're facing 7 road closures within just two miles of our house.

How can the FERC decide on a major issue like this without requiring a detailed plan on the overall impact to all residents affected?

## **Conclusion**

The United States is currently facing an energy glut. Natural gas prices are falling like a rock. Use of alternate energies is up. There is no pressing economic need for this pipeline. For some it will ruin their properties and severely disrupt their lives. If an accident occurs it could end a number of lives, especially since PennEast has routed it through populated areas such as schools and parks. It's ecologically unsound and will cause damage in areas that are very unique and sensitive to change. It will be a constant burden to the towns and municipalities it goes through without giving us any material benefit.

For these reasons we object to this pipeline and urge the FERC to not allow PennEast to go ahead with this project.

Document Content(s)

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