



Sample Questions to Ask of Pipeline Companies Proposal New or Expanding Pipeline Projects for Your Community

We understand that in the FERC process, landowners have the right to await the outcome of the full FERC approval process, including:

- project pre-filing with FERC
- filing application materials for FERC review
- becoming intervenors in the process
- issuance of an Environmental Assessment and/or Environmental Impact Statement
- comment periods associated with all such documents
- and the release of FERC approval of the project

before landowners legally need to sign easement agreements. Will you abide by this legal process and refrain from telling landowners they need to sign easements before this process is complete?

Will you work with landowners to achieve the minimum impact to their quality of life by addressing landowner issues by meeting with landowners as groups who are collectively impacted, and not limiting your communications to individual meetings?

What percentage of landowners have granted survey permission? In both PA and NJ?

Are you planning on executing eminent domain?

What authority over your pipeline construction and location decisions will you grant to our local town council/supervisors/commissioners?

If this pipeline were to go through would you target this right of way for future expansions or new pipelines? If you say no tonight are you willing to sign legal documentation to that affect?

The stigma of the pipeline, would significantly depreciate the values of properties near the pipeline. Are you planning on compensating homeowners who are near pipeline property for their loss?

I've read that land owners will have to pay the increased insurance on land that you run a pipeline through? Can you provide documentation showing us how much we can expect in these kinds of costs?

Who pays for the damages and clean up *when* something goes wrong?

How does the pipeline company plan to compensate the township for increases in the taxpayer burden to improvements in emergency preparedness, given our Class 9 Protection status? (If your community has limited emergency services and/or only has volunteer emergency service personnel please include this information in your question.)

Has the company taken into consideration the danger of building a pipeline over the Holland fault?

- If not why not?
- If yes, then what are your findings and explanations for this obviously dangerous decision, including has the company estimated the potential impact radius should an explosion occur on the fault? Please provide all review information and data.

Will you create evacuation plans for our Township? Will you regularly, at least annually, hold public meetings to alert everyone and train everyone in these evacuation plans?

Do you have a plan to prepare our first responders for gas related accidents? Does that fall to the Township?

What happens in 20 or so years when the gas is gone and your pipeline is no longer in use, will you commit to full removal and restoration of our land?

What effort did you make to coordinate your planning for this pipeline with other pipeline companies -- so you could share capacity and negate the need for this new project?

What effort did you make to co-locate this project with an existing pipeline or other existing right-of-way?

How wide is the blast zone in a 30" transmission pipe? (We all know of the recent tragedy in Ewing NJ from the blast a much, much smaller 6" distribution pipe.)

- What is the maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP) of this proposed pipeline?
- Will the company calculate the High Consequence Areas (HCA) along the entire pipeline path so the public can see what might be vaporized or burned if an explosion were to occur?
- What will be the Potential Impact Radius (PIR) if an explosion were to occur based on the size and diameter of the pipe, MAOP, and the strength of the pipe?
- What is the potential and radius of secondary fires beyond the PIR?

What grade pipe will be used for the project? Will it be consistent and the strongest available along the entire pipeline path? (Or will rural areas get a lower grade pipe than more populated areas which is often the case with these projects)?

Williams' record on safety has been terrifying this year with the explosions, fires and community evacuations in Opal WY and Plymouth WA, where shrapnel from the explosion pierced a liquified natural gas storage tank. And as locals, we remember the 2011 Allentown explosion of a UGI pipeline that killed 5. Why should we believe that Williams and UGI will build and maintain PennEast safely?
http://www.oregonlive.com/business/index.ssf/2014/04/natural_gas_accidents_in_portl.html

Is the state/township being paid by the pipeline company for development rights that the state/township now own from property that's been placed in preservation?

Exactly what kind of revenue is the township expected to obtain, and when does any revenue stream begin and what is it based on?

Much of the land being chosen for your pipeline is conservation land, green acres, farmland, and waterways. All of the open spaces we've worked so hard and paid for through our taxes to protect. Why have you targeted these areas?

What is the right-of way width you are proposing? Assuming it is the standard 100 to 200 feet, are you willing to use construction practices that we know to exist and have in fact been used in nearby New Jersey projects to narrow that right of way disturbance to closer to 50 feet?

Will you commit to leaving forested and/or vegetated landscapes uncut for purposes of aerial right-of way surveillance? We are able to provide substantiation of avoiding clearing a right-of way simply for purposes of maintenance surveys is possible.

Will you commit to supporting right-of way maintenance that avoids all use of chemicals, restores native ecosystems, and allows for a closed canopy in forested areas cut by the right of way?

Will you commit to conducting invasive species management along the right-of way for at least 10 years, beyond the minimum required by FERC?

Will you commit to development practices that avoid soil compaction to the greatest degree possible, for example those practices recommended in the Delaware Riverkeeper Network report "Achieving Higher Quality Restoration on Pipeline Rights of Way" by expert Leslie Sauer?

Will you commit to using Horizontal Drilling to cut under all waterways, wetlands and forests so as to minimize the harm resulting from traditional construction practices that mechanically cut through them creating maximum damage? How will you ensure this drilling will not result in Bentonite spills and drilling muds going into the drilled waterway as happened in the Upper Delaware when the Northeast Upgrade Pipeline Project was drilled under the River?

Will you commit to ensuring a 300 foot vegetated buffer along all waterways after construction to ensure maximum habitat and water quality protection?

Will you plant larger diameter trees and shrubs to encourage faster restoration and avoid mortality to deer browse?

Beyond larger trees, what practices will you use to prevent deer destruction? Will you commit to deer fencing when requested by the property owner?

How many waterways are in the path of this project?

How many wetlands are in the path of this project?

How many acres of public lands are you targeting with this project?

How many compressor stations will this project require and where will they be located?

Will there be any blasting as part of this project?

In your General Route Evaluation and Assessment process, will you contact the county planning commissions now to determine what local impacts you may not be aware of?

What percentage of this gas is being exported? We know that there is a big increase in efforts to export gas, including building new export facilities, because you can sell the gas for 4 times the amount overseas, so are you really not going to export at any point in the future?

- How can you really promise that? You are hooking into other lines that can and do lead a path to newly approved LNG export.
- If the answer is none, will you commit in writing that none of this gas will ever be exported overseas and that if that were to happen you will compensate all property owners along the route with a percentage of your increased profits from doing so?
- If the answer is some then how much and from what LNG facility will it be exported?

Of the supply of gas promised to NJ, what areas of NJ will receive it? Will this require the addition of more transmission/distribution pipelines?

Is it true that the gas company has no liability/obligation to repair damage to the floodplain that may be caused by construction, but does not exist within the ROW?

What are you doing to protect streams, the woodlands, the watershed, farmlands, and our aquifers? How wide a path are you clearing?

Regarding the employment opportunities asserted, what percentage of workers will be local?

- Are these union jobs?
- Given our understanding that much of the work requires specialized skills, and many of these specialists are from regions such as TX, what percentage of workers will be from out-of-state?

Many analysts are not bullish on the gas market, believing it's a bubble and production estimates are over-stated. Should a market bubble burst, how does PennEast plan on having sufficient resources to maintain the safety and integrity of the pipeline?

In a Sept 2, 2014 article on PennEast in nj.com, PennEast spokesperson Patricia Kornick was quoted as saying, "This is not fracking; this is construction of a pipeline. This is not about fracking." Given that the US Energy Information Administration has estimated that Marcellus shale production is six times greater than three years ago – and exceeds domestic demand – how can you claim that the expansion of transmission pipeline infrastructure such as PennEast is not about this expansion of fracking and shale gas extraction?

Given all of the reports of water pollution, air pollution, deforestation, and other environmental harms resulting from shale gas extraction how can you continue to assert that the gas you are bringing through your pipeline is clean and safe?

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Sample Pipeline Questions provided by:

Delaware Riverkeeper Network, Berks Gas Truth, Pipeline Safety Coalition, NJ Sierra Club

Will you put an escrow account in place to help property owners deal with harms they suffer as a result of this pipeline?

Will you provide property owners with funds necessary to pay the increased insurance rates they will have to pay as the result of a gas pipeline going and flowing through their property?

How far does a home have to be from the pipeline to be safe if there were an explosion? Is 25 feet enough? 30 feet? 40 feet? Would you feel safe if your family and kids lived that close?

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Questions to local government officials:

What is the current township government's position on this?

Is the township making any money on this? How much?

Do you own property that will be impacted by this pipeline?

Is the township able to handle the loss of revenue that will be caused by landowners having their properties re-valued and lowering their tax assessment?

Many in the community were and are unaware of the pipeline proposal, given that we are all impacted directly and/or indirectly what are you doing to ensure all in the community are alerted to events like these?

Are you planning any town halls and inviting environmental groups and pipeline safety experts to provide information to help us with this?

Will you make township meeting space available for those who want to meet?

Are you getting together with other townships affected by this pipeline proposal to coordinate concerns and efforts?

Will you write a resolution against the pipeline?

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