The natural gas industry is destroying landscapes, endangering the health of families, and worsening the threat of climate change.

Yet more pipelines than ever are proposed in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The scale of this industry buildout is unprecedented. The impact on landowners, communities, and the world will be devastating.

Every type of pipeline threatens the health of our communities. Our air quality is compromised and concerns of pipeline leaks or explosions loom. The recreation and tourism sectors of our economies, representing tens of billions of dollars, are impacted. While many of these projects seize private property against landowners’ will, sometimes forever altering family farms that have remained the same for generations.

Taken together, the scale of the currently proposed projects—including the construction and operation of the pipes, compressor stations, metering and regulating stations, and other facilities—make it almost certain that some projects will, if they have not already, impact your life and that of your neighbor.

Natural gas is not a long term solution improving our health, our economy, and our climate. Have no doubt, it is a dirty and dangerous fossil fuel.

114 MILES OF IMPACT

The proposed PennEast Pipeline would cut a scar potentially 125-feet wide 114 mile-long pipe across private and public lands in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The pipeline originates in Luzerne County, PA, crosses the Delaware River near Riegelsville, NJ, traversing Hunterdon County to the edge of Mercer County. The proposed path targets many public state and local recreation areas. The PennEast pipeline is a joint venture by six companies, including Spectra, the owner and operator of the pipeline that exploded in Western Pennsylvania in late April 2016, injuring one person, and destroying one house while damaging several others.

The impacts of the PennEast pipeline would include:

- Reduction of public recreation and outdoor sporting opportunities across 30 parks and 33 conservation easements.
- Imperialization of habitats for rare listed species, including bald eagles, bobolinks, harrier hawks, ospreys, cormorants, wood turtles, great blue herons, bobcats, long-tailed salamander, and others.

Beyond these impacts, PennEast would cause more fracking in Pennsylvania—the source of the gas PennEast plans to transport. This would contribute to the air, water, and noise pollution, truck traffic, and other safety threats that communities across the Commonwealth already experience.

Finally, with little demand for the fracked gas transported by PennEast in the saturated gas markets of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the product will most likely be destined for overseas markets.

STOP THE PENNEAST PIPELINE — PA & NJ

Protect Our Water, Land, and Communities

Our team of engineers and consultants planned this route by balancing the safest, most direct route for the pipeline with numerous environmental, structural, conservation and land use factors. The route will be designed to minimize impact to the community and environment.
PEOPLE POWER
Despite threats from industry and claims of “inevitability”, momentum has been building over the past several months as grassroots and community voices speak out against major pipeline proposals. A few projects that have been stalled or canceled due to mounting public opposition include:

- Constitution fracked gas pipeline – rejected 4/22/16.
- Northeast Energy Direct – cancelled 4/20/16.
- Atlantic Coast Pipeline – Forest Service permit denied 1/22/16.

WHO MAKES THE DECISION?
FERC – The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is an independent federal agency that regulates the interstate transmission of electricity, natural gas, and oil.

- FERC will conduct an environmental review, expected to be completed in December 2016. Based on this study and public comments, FERC will decide whether to authorize this interstate pipeline.

DRBC – The Delaware River Basin Commission manages water quality, withdrawals, conservation, and permitting for the river and its tributaries in the basin. The Commission has 5 governing members: the governors of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and Delaware; and the Division Engineer from North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

- DRBC will hold independent hearings on FERC’s Environmental Impact Study starting in 2017. This is an important opportunity for public participation. Additionally, the DRBC will have the opportunity to review and decide on several watershed specific permits for the PennEast project over the next several months.

We can STOP PennEast Pipeline, but we must continue the public outcry! The project has faced widespread opposition from community groups, ratepayers, and landowners along the proposed route.

- Be heard at the DRBC! PennEast has applied for multiple permit approvals. Sign up to speak out at monthly meetings. You can find out the next meeting date and location at http://www.nj.gov/drbc/meetings/upcoming/.
- Demand the DRBC to Conduct Seven or More Public Meetings in 2017! The DRBC has agreed to hold hearings independent of FERC. Now we must demand at least 7 hearings that permit for equal public participation throughout the watershed. http://www.nj.gov/drbc/contact/general/
- Register and comment on FERC NOW! Landowners directly affected, landowners abutted to directly effected property, residents within a mile or two of the pipeline, taxpayers, and people who enjoy outdoor recreation on our public lands can go to www.FERC.gov and register with Docket # CP15-558 and intervene!
- Know your rights! Surveying is still going on. You have the right to deny the surveyors access to your property. DO NOT sign anything without consulting an attorney. Post No Trespassing signs on the perimeter of your property and deny access to PennEast. If you have already signed paperwork to grant the company access to your property, you may still want to consult a lawyer about potentially sending a deny/rescind letter.
- Write letters to the editor! The letters to the editor section of just about every newspaper is one of the most-read sections. You can help spread the word about the pipeline and your concerns by getting your letter published. Most papers have submission guidelines, e.g. word-count limits, so be sure to check them before submitting. Contact your local press and ask them to cover the issue.
- Educate your community: about PennEast Pipeline. Handing out flyers at your local community center, grocery store, or place of worship, going door-to-door to talk to neighbors, helps spread the word.
- Host an educational forum or town hall meeting in your community. Contact Sierra Club for more information about local speakers.
- Urge your local, county, and state representatives to actively oppose the project.
- Keep in touch with Sierra Club: contact Toni Granato at toni.granato@sierraclub.org or “PA” contact justin.wasser@sierraclub.org.
- Visit us online at sc.org/penneast

1 Compiled in part from stoppenneast.org
2 Michael Spille, West Amwell Citizens Against the Pipeline (WACAP). http://www.hopewelltwp.org/penn_east/West%20Amwell%20Citizens%20Against%20the%20Pipeline.pdf
3 http://www.ferc.gov/about/ferc-does.asp