



For Immediate Release
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Tennessee Gas Pipeline Challenged In Court Again

Washington, DC: A petition for a stay to stop the forward movement of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's Northeast Upgrade Project (TGP NEUP) was filed today by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and NJ Highlands Coalition. The Petition asks the DC Circuit Court of Appeals, a federal court, to issue a stay of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Order and Certification issued on May 29, 2012 as well as its Notice to Proceed with Construction issued for the TGP NEUP on December 14, 2012. Petitioners are represented by the Delaware Riverkeeper Network's attorneys and the Environmental Law Clinic at Columbia Law School.

"This is the worst kind of project," said **Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper** and head of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network. "The pipeline company is cutting through our region for a project that will itself inflict irreparable harm to mature forests, residential communities, and pristine streams and wetlands, causing increased water and air pollution as well as increased water runoff contributing to flooding and drought. The project will inflict even more harm by encouraging increased drilling and fracking across Pennsylvania and beyond. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) failed to do its job by thoroughly reviewing the pipeline upgrade project's myriad harmful impacts through a full Environmental Impact Statement looking at the whole project. Instead the agency conducted a minimal level of review of just one small segment of the entire project, helping the company to violate our environmental protection laws. This is bad government supporting a bad project and hurting good people," van Rossum added.

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If the Petition for Stay is successful, TGP would be forced to put tree felling and construction on hold until the Court of Appeals completes its review of petitioners' challenge to FERC's Order and Certification under the Natural Gas Act and National Environmental Policy Act.

"The rush to ship Pennsylvania's fracked gas to East Coast distribution hubs and overseas terminals will have continuing and cumulative impacts on the water supply sources of the Highlands and the Delaware River Basin that tens of millions of people rely upon. FERC must exercise its jurisdictional obligation to ensure that the benefits of the project are not outweighed by the costs to the public, and protect the public trust resources of our water supply and natural landscapes," said **Julia Somers, Executive Director of the NJ Highlands Coalition**.

"As a lifelong resident of Ringwood, New Jersey, I know firsthand the kind of damage this project will do. That is why our communities have to go to court to require FERC to do the job it should have done in the first place. This project will cause irreparable harm to the most environmentally sensitive areas in New Jersey. This project will affect our largest water supply watershed, impacting more than 2 million people. Because of my close personal and professional review of this project, I know FERC did not look at secondary impacts to water supply, wetlands, endangered species, continuous forests, steep slopes, scenic vistas, historic sites, air pollution from methane leaks, and more pollution from fracking. This project is a dagger in the heart of the Highlands," said Jeff Tittel.

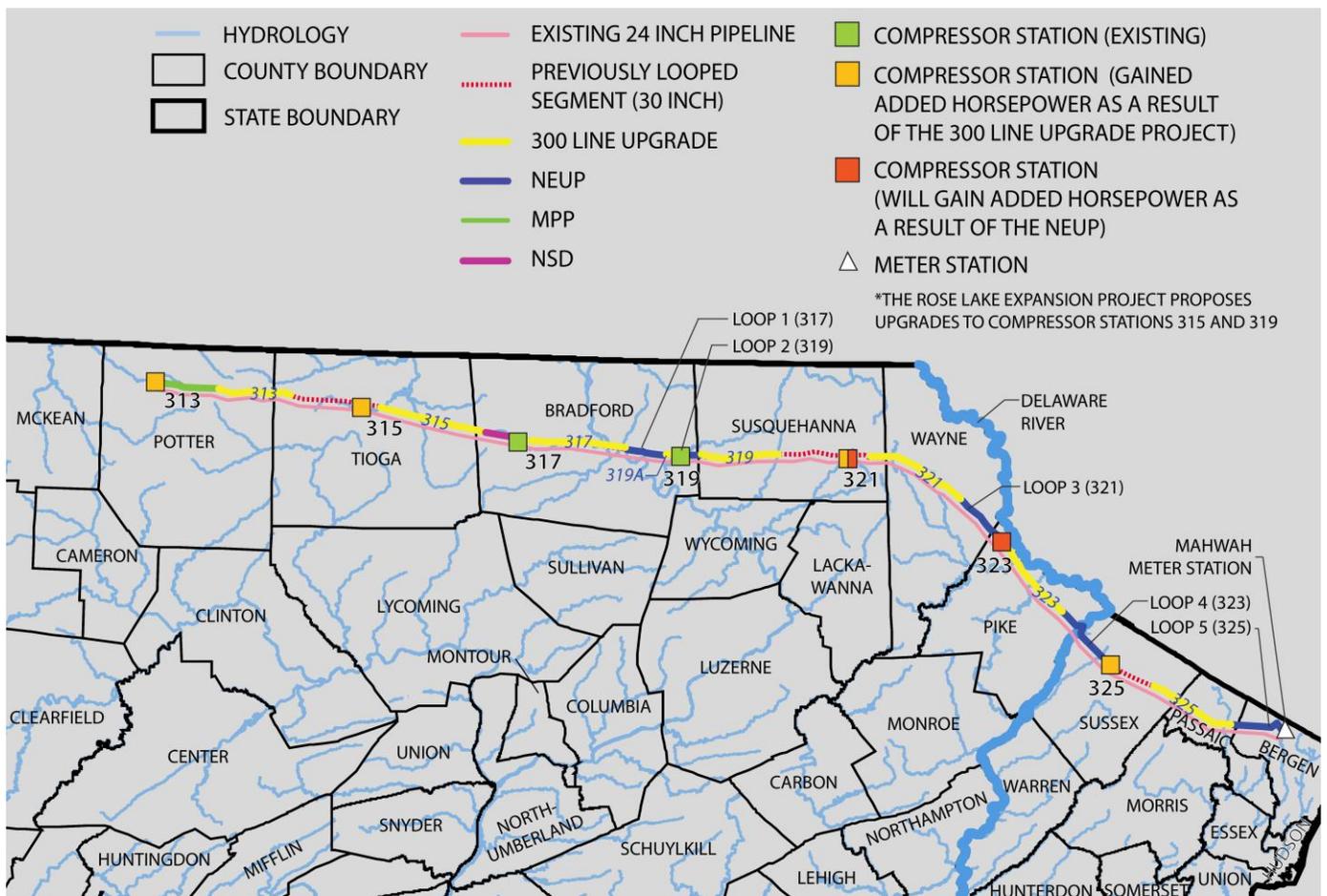
Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's Northeast Upgrade Project (NEUP) is an interstate transmission line upgrade project. The NEUP is the final pipeline upgrade project in TGP's multi-stage 300 Line upgrade project, although TGP has tried to disguise the interdependence of its 300 Line upgrade project components to avoid critical environmental regulation and oversight. Three of the loops that are part of the Northeast Upgrade Project are located within the Delaware River Basin (Loops 321, 323, and 325), spanning Wayne and Pike Counties in Pennsylvania and Sussex County in New Jersey. The project includes pipeline drilling activities under the Delaware River, significant new grading and clearing of previously undisturbed forested land and steep slopes, 90 stream crossings, 136 wetland crossings, and 450 acres of land development within our watershed alone. Highpoint State Park and Delaware State Forest are among the public lands that will be damaged by this project.

Currently, the western leg of the 300 Line runs from compressor station 219 in Mercer County, Pennsylvania to compressor station 313 in Potter County, and consists of a 24-inch-diameter pipeline with completed 30-inch-diameter loops along its entire length. Within the last 24 months, Tennessee

Gas Pipeline Company has applied to FERC for approval of five interdependent pipeline looping and compressor station upgrade projects that together will compose the Eastern Leg of the 300 Line, starting at compressor station 313 in Potter County, Pennsylvania and stretching east to a delivery point in Mahwah, New Jersey.

In addition to the Petition for Stay, the Delaware Riverkeeper Network and Responsible Drilling Alliance are challenging permits issued for the project by the State of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. The Delaware Riverkeeper Network is also continuing its efforts to secure full review of the project by the Delaware River Basin Commission, along with all pipelines in the watershed.

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SCALE: 1 INCH = 30 MILES

Pipeline and station data recreated from provided maps. Meliora Design is not responsible for accuracy.

*Hydrology data varies by state.