



For Immediate Release:

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Citizens' Rally Against Forest Destruction - Blockades of Pipeline Begins on President's Day

Montague, NJ & Milford, PA: Less than 24 hours after FERC approval was granted for tree clearing of "Pipeline Loop 323" that would cut through the Delaware River Watershed, Tennessee Gas Pipeline chainsaw crews, with trucks with Wisconsin license plates, began invading the forests and cutting thousands of 70-year old trees along the controversial Northeast Upgrade Pipeline project (NEUP) that would carry fracked natural gas from drilling zones in Pennsylvania across into New Jersey to other markets. The fracking pipeline infrastructure project by Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a part of Kinder Morgan, is affecting communities throughout parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey - map of Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project here:

<http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/resources/Factsheets/Combined%20TGP%20Project%20MAP%20FINAL.jpg>

While legal avenues are still being pursued by Delaware Riverkeeper Network and others against Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a coalition of over 50 environmental groups and citizens have been urging the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to use their jurisdiction to regulate these large pipeline projects and to reopen the docket for the NEUP. As one of five votes on the DRBC, the Army Corps was also urged to step in at this critical time - especially since the freshwater wetlands permit in Pennsylvania (Section 404) is still actively under review by the Corps.

On February 15, 2013, Delaware Riverkeeper Network submitted a rehearing request for the NEUP docket, the third request made by the organization to the DRBC to revisit its jurisdictional decisions over the project. Read more about DRBC's reversal of its position on pipelines here:

http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/resources/PressReleases/PR_DRBC_300&1278_lines.pdf

Read about the legal injunction decision here:

http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/resources/PressReleases/PR_DC_Injunction_decision.pdf

An outdoor rally is being held on Monday, February 18 at 10am at 10 Mountain Road, Montague, NJ where forests are being cut along the mountainside and an 87-year old resident is anguished caused by the destruction of Tennessee Gas Pipeline who took his land through eminent domain. See video interview here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEthCvQxKi4&list=UUBxNaY3MzWj0RFZVQSTTrhw&index=1>

"TGP has run into the forest with their chainsaws this weekend for fear citizens will successfully find a legal path to stop them. This is just another subversion of the legal process - undermining it and avoiding it," said **Maya van Rossum the Delaware Riverkeeper**. "This doesn't mean we won't still be challenging this pipeline and how it's being developed as wrong, we will. But TGP is trying to make darn sure we can't save the old trees as part of our success."

Read a release put out by the citizens blockading the pipeline at:

<http://www.notennesseepipeline.blogspot.com/>

Events are being planned by the local community all this week attempt to blockade the cutting.

To see photos of damage done by TGP:

<http://northjersseypipelinewalkers.com/TREE%20FELLING--MONTAGUE.pdf>

<http://www.facebook.com/Delaware.Riverkeeper.Network>

To follow the story as it continues to emerge read the Delaware Riverkeeper's Countdown series at: <http://www.delawarivervoiced.blogspot.com>

To stay updated on citizen action around the Tennessee Gas Pipeline:

<http://www.facebook.com/StopTheTennesseeGasPipelineNeup?ref=ts&fref=ts>

<http://www.notennesseepipeline.blogspot.com/>

To write a letter to DRBC and to learn more about this project and the legal actions underway:

<http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/act-now/urgent-details.aspx?Id=139>

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