

***For Immediate Release***

November 20 2014

Contact: Todd Stone, Gallows Run Watershed Association, 610 346 8997  
Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, 215 369 1188 ext 102 (rings office & Cell)  
Lynda Farrell, Executive Director, Pipeline Safety Coalition, 484.340.0648  
Karen Feridun, Founder, Berks Gas Truth, 610-678-7726

## **Gallows Run Watershed Association to Host Educational Forum on PennEast Pipeline**

On Tuesday, December 2nd at 7:30 p.m. the Gallows Run Watershed Association will host an important educational forum on the PennEast Pipeline at the Palisades High School. PennEast, Inc. is proposing to construct 108 miles of 36 inch pipeline from Luzerne County, PA to Mercer County, NJ. The pipeline would cross from Pennsylvania into New Jersey under the Delaware River at Riegelsville, Bucks County.

Concerned members of the community will learn more about the project proposal, impacts on affected communities and the environment, upstream impacts of pipeline proliferation, the regulatory process for pipeline approvals, and what they can do to fight the pipeline. Speakers include:

Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper, PennEast Pipeline — Cumulative and Environmental Impacts, and Strategic Arguments for Challenging  
Lynda Farrell, Pipeline Safety Coalition, Pipeline Regulation and Landowner Rights  
Sam Koplinka-Loehr, Clean Air Council, Taking Action to Reach Community Goals and Protect Public Health  
Karen Feridun, Berks Gas Truth, What You Can Do to Fight the Pipeline

“While the pipeline companies want us all to believe we are powerless in the face of their onslaught, it is not true,” **said Maya van Rossum, The Delaware Riverkeeper.** “There are things that landowners, local governments, and the protectors of our public lands and natural resources can and should do. The first thing is to get educated and get active, and that is what this forum is all about.”

Methane, the main ingredient of natural gas, is 86 times more efficient than carbon dioxide at trapping heat in the atmosphere in the 20 year time scale. Methane leaks can and do occur at every point in production, transmission, processing, and distribution of natural gas, but mounting scientific evidence reveals that leaks are occurring at alarmingly high rates that outweigh any cleaner burning benefits of natural gas.

For people living upstream in the Marcellus region, more pipelines means more wells, more leaks, and more threats to health and safety. For people on the path of a proposed pipeline, the more immediate threats include eminent domain, a route that could take the pipeline too close to

schools, hospitals, and other institutions, and one that would cut through conserved land, historic sites, important wetlands and creeks, through forests and other special places.

Pipeline systems in the United States are chronically under-regulated. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), the government agency overseeing pipeline safety, only has 135 inspectors to oversee 2.6 million miles of pipeline. PHMSA and its state partners have inspected only one fifth of that pipeline system since 2006.<sup>1</sup>

Problems occur on natural gas lines every year. In the past ten years, gas transmission lines have averaged 117 incidents a year, according to PHMSA. In the past twenty years there have been 41 deaths, 195 injuries, and \$1.6 billion in property damage as a result.<sup>2</sup>

The company is currently contacting property owners and has submitted a pre-filing application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The public can submit comments on the proposal on FERC's website using the docket number PF15-1. They plan to submit a formal application with FERC in 2015.

What: PennEast Pipeline Education Forum  
When: December 2, 2014, 7:30 p.m.  
Where: [Palisades High School](#) in Nockamixon

---

<sup>1</sup><http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20130911/exclusive-pipeline-safety-chief-says-his-regulatory-process-kind-dying>

<sup>2</sup> [http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/safety/Allpsi.html#\\_ngtrans](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/safety/Allpsi.html#_ngtrans)