



Overburdened and Overlooked

Communities Harmed by Transco's Southeast Supply Enhancement Project

As federal regulations and commitments to environmental justice continue to disappear, the Transco proposed Southeast Supply Enhancement Project (SSEP) would add 55 miles of pipeline, span five states, and cut through communities already dealing with some of the worst environmental injustices in the region.

But instead of preparing a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will conduct a less intensive Environmental Assessment, and has deleted environmental justice content from its website. By doing so, FERC and Transco are downplaying the dire potential impacts of SSEP and other projects on communities in North Carolina and Virginia.

Key Takeaways

- Communities around Transco's proposed Southeast Supply Enhancement Project (SSEP) already suffer from some of the worst air pollution in their states. Communities within a 3-mile radius of two of SSEP's proposed compressor stations already have worse particulate matter (PM2.5) pollution than 97% of the state.
 - In other words, **communities that already live within harm's way of polluting facilities, including Transco's compressor stations, would be exposed to even more air pollution if new gas-fired compressor units were added.**
- In its submissions to FERC, Transco took a limited view of what communities qualify as "environmental justice" and "low-income" communities. This approach left several communities with substantial low-income or people of color populations unaccounted for, and ignored key metrics such as asthma rates, cancer rates, populations with disabilities, and vulnerabilities to disasters and emergencies.
- Using a more comprehensive analysis of surrounding communities **increased the amount of environmental justice communities around SSEP by 10%** – communities that would have otherwise been left unaccounted for when analyzing environmental justice.
- North Carolina has several climate and environmental goals, including reducing statewide greenhouse gas emissions 50% below 2005 levels by 2030 and down to net-zero emissions by 2050. SSEP would make reaching these goals virtually impossible.
 - Using EPA estimates for the social cost of carbon, the full-burn downstream emissions from SSEP would create more than \$122 billion worth of damages over the next twenty years.
- The power is now with state and local decision makers to seriously consider the "need" for the proposed project and its impacts on communities and environmental resources, including cumulative impacts given other projects proposed for the region.

You can help protect these communities. Tell FERC to conduct a thorough review of the pipeline's environmental impacts, and to comprehensively analyze a "no-action alternative" for this project, at www.sc.org/NoSSEPPipeline. Visit sc.org/NoSSEP to learn more.

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