

Del-Mar Energy Pathway Project

On the Eastern Shore, residents face multiple threats to their ecosystems, health, and well-being. Multiple fracked-gas pipelines are proposed that will cross rivers, farms, and forests, causing irreparable damage to the land and to our climate. Marylanders have a real chance to stop one of these dangerous pipelines. Get involved today!

Del-Mar Pipeline

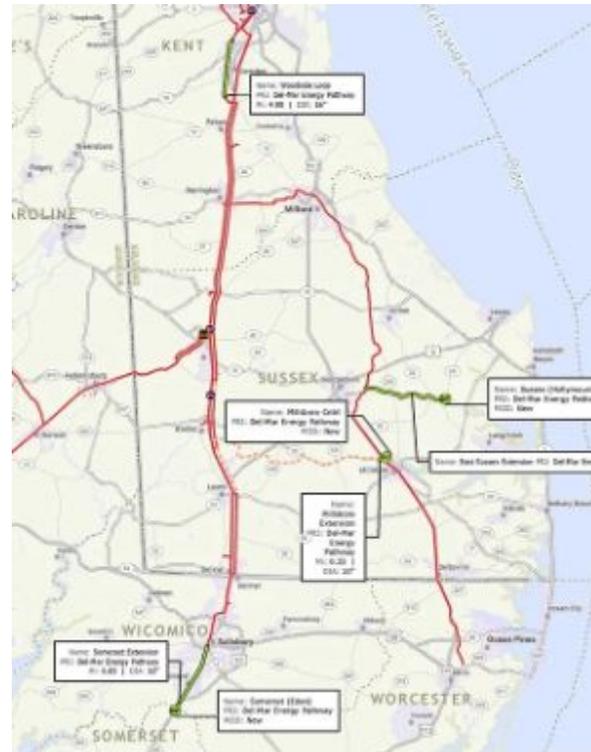
The Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company (ESNG) wants to build 19+ miles of new pipeline to carry fracked gas from Delaware and Maryland.

The pipeline is already under construction in Delaware to carry gas from that state into Maryland. The seven miles of pipeline proposed for Maryland would supply concentrated animal feeding operations, businesses, and residential areas. The two “anchor” customers for gas delivery are the Eastern Correctional Institute (ECI) and University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) in Somerset County. If built, the Del-Mar pipeline would trigger another pipeline to connect the prison to the university.

These two facilities currently generate heat from environmentally damaging fuel sources (wood chips for ECI and a mix of fuel oil and propane for UMES)). Replacing one harmful fuel source with another, however, is not the solution. Investing in gas will lock the facilities and region into reliance on this fossil fuel for *at least* a decade to come. In 2008, a forward-thinking UMES President [pledged](#) to go carbon neutral by 2050. Gas, primarily made of methane, an extremely potent greenhouse gas, is not a climate solution.

The installation of the Del-Mar pipeline will impact 1,239 square feet of streams and more than 16,000 square feet of wetlands.

In-Service Target: Anticipated 4th Quarter of 2021



Get Involved

MDE’s Tidal Wetland Division [posted a notice about Eastern Shore’s tidal wetland permit online](#) on February 1st. Assateague Coastal Trust requested a hearing on February 27th.

The hearing date has not been set. Sign up to stay in touch so that we can let you know when it’s scheduled. Together, we can stop this dangerous pipeline!

Sign up for email updates here: shorturl.at/dnp11

Gas Expansion in Maryland

In 2017, Md. Governor Larry Hogan signed a ban on fracking for gas in Maryland, [concluding](#) “that possible environmental risks of fracking simply outweigh any potential benefits.” Since signing that ban, however, the Hogan Administration has continued to call gas “[a bridge fuel](#)” and has worked to expand gas across the State.

While other [states](#) and [cities](#) are moving away from powering homes and buildings with gas — a potent climate pollutant — Hogan plans to spend [\\$6.5 million this year](#) in his effort to “kick-start” a gas expansion across Maryland.

In total, the Hogan Administration [approved](#) a total of \$100 million to be spent on fracked-gas infrastructure in Maryland, much of the cost of which can be passed onto ratepayers. This Eastern Shore pipeline could represent the beginning of a state- and ratepayer-funded gas infrastructure build-out across Maryland.



Alternatives / Solutions



Gas is not a bridge fuel. Indeed, [leading research warns](#) that gas is just as bad if not worse than coal over a 20-year time frame. International climate scientists say we have just ten years to stop the most catastrophic impacts of global warming, so we need to focus on reducing our near-term climate pollution. The technology exists today to completely electrify residential and commercial buildings.

States and cities are [leading the charge](#) to electrify everything. Berkeley, Calif. and Brookline, Mass. have banned new gas hookups and major cities such as Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle are on the verge of taking similar action.

Gov. Hogan should join other states and cities that are leading the way towards zero-emission buildings, not put his thumb on the scale for gas to the detriment of our climate and against the wishes of his constituents.