

LANDSCAPE



\$33M

Cost of 109 gas transmission incidents in 2017, according to PHMSA.

300,000

Miles of gas transmission lines in the U.S. as of 2016, according to PHMSA.

All Parks Are At Risk

Proponents of these bills want you to think that only East Coast parks would be impacted, but, in reality, national parks around the country would lose protections. Iconic national parks like Shenandoah, Death Valley, Joshua Tree and Yellowstone could all find themselves in the path of a future gas pipeline.



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Pipelines in Parks?

Congress is trying to make it easier to build gas pipelines through national parks.

Congress has proposed legislation to strip important protections that keep gas pipelines out of national parks. Since the 1920s, pipeline companies have needed to get Congressional approval for a right-of-way across National Park Service lands to construct an oil and gas pipeline. This is an important provision, ensuring that the public gets a vote before allowing National Park land to be used to transport fossil fuels.

A provision in 2018 Infrastructure Bills would change this long-established law and remove the requirement for Congressional approval before giving away NPS land for a gas pipeline, replacing the voice of our representatives with that of a few Administrative officials. The National Park Service is firmly opposed to this provision.

If this provision become law, national parks across the country would be at risk. Many pipelines are currently proposed in the East, including ones that would cross through or near Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. But more than just Eastern parks are at risk: as gas production continues to increase out West, parks across California, Arizona and Utah could find themselves in the path of a new gas pipeline.

Gas pipelines are inconsistent with the conservation mandate for national parks. Pipeline construction would result in acres of land and forest being permanently cleared. Transporting fossil fuels through our parks carries the risk of rupture and explosion, threatening park system resources and values, visitor experience, and human health and safety. This would undermine the very purpose for which National Park System units were created.

National parks were established to be protected “unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” Any proposal to put a pipeline through a national park should be carefully and thoroughly debated in Congress before a decision to impair national park lands is made.

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