

## TC Energy's GTN Xpress Fracked Gas Pipeline Expansion Would Result in Unnecessary Climate Changing Pollution

### Summary:

- GTN Xpress would result in an additional 3.47 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions every year, for the next 30 years—[the equivalent of adding 754,000 cars to the road every year until 2052](#).
- The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) Environmental Impact Statement refuses to consider “upstream,” non-combustion emissions from the project—drastically undercounting the project's climate impact.
- GTN Xpress is contrary to the Biden Administration's [efforts](#) to combat the climate crisis, including the goal to achieve 100% carbon-free electricity by 2035. GTN Xpress will disproportionately affect overburdened communities—in direct contradiction to efforts to advance environmental justice.

### Details:

- GTN Xpress would harm Washington, Oregon, and California's ability to comply with energy and climate laws that require reducing fossil fuel emissions.
- Fracked gas emissions come in two forms: upstream and downstream. Downstream emissions happen when fuel is combusted—like when you turn on your gas stove. Upstream emissions include everything before that: fracking emissions, transportation, leaks, intentional “blow-downs” (clearing the gas lines for maintenance), and burning fracked gas to power compressor stations. FERC refuses to count the project's upstream emissions.
- Leaks on the GTN pipeline system have been a significant source of emissions throughout the last decade. Increased gas flows will result in increased gas leaks. Source: [Pipeline Safety Trust](#)
- GTN Xpress would expand 3 compressor stations—fracked gas-powered industrial facilities that regulate the pressure and quantity of gas in the pipeline. Compressor stations are huge polluters.
  - GTN's “Starbuck” compressor station is already [one of Washington State's biggest polluters](#) (table, slide 5/11). GTN Xpress would quadruple this compressor station.

## Documents:

- [Washington, Oregon, and California's Motion to Intervene](#): see pages 15-19, arguing FERC must consider state climate laws; see Exhibit A, "Summary of State and Local Climate Laws & Renewable Energy Development"
  - [Washington AG's press release](#)
- [Expert analysis of GTN Xpress's upstream emissions](#)
- Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission: ["\[T\]he Project is in direct conflict with tribes' and states' climate goals for reducing fossil fuels."](#)
- Governor Inslee: ["Expanding fracked gas through the GTN pipeline runs contrary to our climate goals, and risks further costly environmental harm to our state."](#)
- Governor Kotek: [GTN Xpress cannot "comply with Oregon's clean energy laws and regulations."](#)
- Senators Jeff Merkley & Ron Wyden: ["Adding new emissions through pipeline expansions like the GTN Xpress is incompatible with President Biden's \[climate\] pledge."](#)
- [Comments from Earthjustice et al on FERC's "Environmental Justice Roundtable"](#) (5/15/23)

## Articles:

- E&E News: [Legal Battle Over Climate Brews Between FERC, Blue States](#) (8.22.23)
- Seattle Times: [Washington AG, West Coast States Oppose Major Gas Pipeline Project](#) (8.23.22)
- DeSmog: [Proposed Pipeline Expansion Could Upend Three States' Climate Plans](#) (7.20.23)
- EcoWatch [Op-Ed: The New Landscape for Fighting Fossil Fuel Infrastructure](#) (5.12.23)

## Possible Interview Opportunities:

- Audrey Leonard, Staff Attorney of Columbia Riverkeeper, and member of the Stop GTN Xpress Coalition: [audrey@columbiariverkeeper.org](mailto:audrey@columbiariverkeeper.org) (541) 399-4775
- Satya Austin-Opper, Campaign Coordinator for 350 Deschutes in Bend, OR: [saopper@350deschutes.org](mailto:saopper@350deschutes.org) (828) 575-8228

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