

# *Kinder Morgan: An Accident in Search of a Pipeline?*

**Kinder Morgan's pipeline leak data raise questions** January 2, 2016

**Ayotte opposes Kinder Morgan pipeline if residents' questions aren't answered** Dec 2 2015

**Along Kinder Morgan's Proposed Route, A Fear Of Disaster — And Frustration With Debate's Tone**  
August 26, 2015

**Kinder Morgan pipeline leak reaches 300,000 gallons in South Carolina** April 30, 2015

**Kinder Morgan pipeline safety record fuels NH opposition** Feb 7 2015

## **A review of accidents on Kinder Morgan pipelines across the country**

**August 2003:** Kinder Morgan 26-inch diameter natural gas pipeline exploded in a farming area in Caddo County, Oklahoma.



➤ **April 27, 2004,** an underground Kinder Morgan 14" pipeline ruptured at Suisun Marsh in Solano County, California, spilling over 120,000 gallons of diesel fuel directly into the marsh

**November 9, 2004,** a Kinder Morgan pipeline in Walnut Creek, California was struck by a backhoe, causing a gasoline spill that ignited in an explosive fireball that incinerated five workers and severely injured four others. CalOSHA (California Occupational Safety and Health Administration) cited Kinder Morgan for failure to accurately mark or map the pipeline location.

**May 2005:** Kinder Morgan 30-inch diameter natural gas pipeline exploded near Marshall, Texas. 2 hurt, 40 evacuated.

**July 2006:** Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas pipeline exploded near Campbellsville, Ky.



➤ **September 2008:** Kinder Morgan gas pipeline manifold exploded and burned for more than 10 hours in Pasadena, Texas.

**November 30, 2010,** a 30" diameter Kinder Morgan / Tennessee Gas Pipeline failed in a semi-rural area between Highway 1 and State Road 3191, two miles NW of Natchitoches, Louisiana, 1/4 mile NE of a country club, and 200' south of a residential subdivision. Louisiana state police evacuated 100 homes

**August 17, 2011,** Kinder Morgan's Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America had a flash fire and explosion south of Herscher, Illinois. Five employees went to the hospital. Kinder Morgan was cited for pipeline and workplace safety violations.



➤ **November 2011:** A weld failed on a 36-inch diameter Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline near Glouster, Ohio. Three homes were destroyed by the fire.

**June 2012:** A 26-inch Kinder Morgan natural gas pipeline failed in Gray County, Texas.



➤ **June 2013:** in Louisiana, a 30-inch diameter Kinder Morgan pipeline ruptured and exploded in a rural area of Washington Parish. 55 homes were evacuated.

**March 14, 2011** The Carteret, New Jersey, KMLT had a leak and fire during maintenance work.

In 2011, PHMSA (Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration) cited Kinder Morgan for these safety violations:

- failing to maintain update maps showing pipeline locations,
- failing to test pipeline safety devices,
- failing to maintain proper firefighting equipment,
- failing to inspect its pipelines as required, and
- failing to adequately monitor pipes' corrosion levels

### ***You don't get this with solar and wind power***

1994 - 2013, the U.S.

745 serious incidents with gas distribution,

278 fatalities

1059 injuries,

\$110,658,083 in property damage.

1994 - 2013, 110 serious incidents with gas transmission

41 fatalities

195 injuries

\$448,900,333 in property damage.

1,400 pipeline spills and accidents in the U.S. 2010-2013.

4 of 5 pipeline accidents are discovered by local residents, not the companies that own the pipelines.

INDUSTRY WIDE 5,600 pipeline incidents over the last 20 years have been deemed "significant." ("significant incident" means the leak resulted in either a fatality or injury requiring in-patient hospitalization, had an impact of \$50,000 or more in total costs (measured in 1984 dollars), resulted in the release of highly volatile liquids of five barrels or more (or other liquid releases of 50 barrels or more) or liquid releases resulting in an unintentional fire or explosion.)

### **Nationwide, 7 percent of natural gas lines and 44 percent of all hazardous liquid lines are subject to rigorous inspection criteria and inspected regularly.**



Critics also claim the industry's relationship with the safety administration may go further than inspections with the regulating agency adopting, at least in part, dozens of safety standards written by the oil and natural gas industry. "This isn't like the fox guarding the hen house," Weimer said. "It's like the fox designing the hen house." (Carl Weimer, executive director of the Pipeline Safety Trust)

There are six primary reasons why pipeline disasters occur:

1. Pipeline operators fail to maintain adequate release prevention and response systems,
  2. Regulatory agencies provide ineffective and inadequate regulation and enforcement,
  3. Federal and state elected officials fail to pass laws strong enough to protect the environment and public safety and fail to give regulatory agencies the funds they need,
  4. Residents and local governments aren't paying attention, or do not have access to the information that allows them to participate,
  5. There is inadequate liability for releases from pipelines, and
  6. This country lacks a comprehensive and coherent energy policy that is focused on increased conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy sources.
- (<http://pstrust.org/about/background/>)