

To Governor Ned Lamont and DEEP Commissioner Katie Dykes:

We write you with serious concerns about the proposed expansion to the pipeline compressor station in Brookfield, Connecticut. TC Energy and Berkshire Hathaway want to more than double the size of the facility in order to ship more fracked-gas to New York. The facility already emits dangerous toxins such as NOx, formaldehyde, and volatile organic compounds, as well as greenhouse gas emissions. Expanding the facility would only increase these emissions and deepen our region's dependence on fossil fuels. In the era of climate crisis, we must be shutting down fossil fuel facilities, not expanding them.

The compressor station, which is remotely monitored, also poses a serious safety risk. The Whisconier Middle School is situated less than 2000 feet from the facility - meaning that every day hundreds of school children breathe in toxins from the compressor station, and are at risk if there were to be an accident at the facility.

Brookfield residents have been in opposition to this compressor station and adjoining pipeline system for decades. Residents first rallied to oppose the original construction of the pipeline. Many of their concerns were validated when the Environmental Protection Administration and the Department of Justice fined TC Energy \$23 million after a criminal investigation found that the company failed to restore 188 impacted wetlands, and failed to install trench breakers along the pipeline route, which are critical to help prevent corrosion of the pipeline. To the dismay of concerned residents who had first reported these violations, TC Energy did not have to go back and install the trench breakers, and an inspection of the already laid pipe was not adequately performed.

Years later the pipeline compressor station was proposed - and strongly objected by residents of Brookfield. The facility was pushed through despite this opposition, and a subsequent expansion was also completed. TC Energy and Berkshire Hathaway are once again attempting to expand their footprint in Brookfield without the consent of residents who are most impacted by the facility.

There are also serious concerns about the new source review permit application that TC Energy and Berkshire Hathaway have submitted to DEEP. The application fails to incorporate updated regulations for methane pollution that were added to the Clean Air Act in December 2022 and November 2023. For this reason we believe that the current permit application is invalid, and must be corrected and resubmitted.

In addition to impacting residents of Brookfield and nearby communities, the compressor station expansion would also pose a risk to other towns that are crossed by this pipeline route. This includes Sherman, New Milford, Newtown, Monroe, Shelton, Trumbull, and Milford - a town that hosts another TC Energy and Berkshire Hathaway compressor station which harms residents. Adding additional capacity to the compressor station in Brookfield means that more toxic fracked-gas will be flowing through all of these communities, increasing the chance for an accident.

Overall, the expansion of the Brookfield compressor station would endanger the health and safety of Connecticut residents including the students at the Whisconier Middle School, further our region's dependence on fossil fuels, and allow fossil fuel corporations to continue to profit at the expense of our communities. **We urge you and your Administration to take the following actions:**

- Publicly oppose the compressor station expansion proposed for Brookfield
- Reject the air permit application for the expansion
- Fund air monitoring in Brookfield to understand the real impacts of the existing facility
- Visit Brookfield and meet with directly impacted residents

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Stop the Brookfield Compressor Station
Sierra Club Connecticut
Branford Clean Energy
Clean Water Action
Climate Reality Project Southern CT Chapter
Connecticut Citizen Action Group
CT Coalition for Economic and Environmental Justice
Connecticut League of Conservation Voters
Conservation Law Foundation
Food & Water Watch
Hamden Alliance for Trees
Housatonic Environmental Action League (HEAL)
Housatonic River Initiative (HRI)
Interreligious Eco-Justice Network / CT Interfaith Power & Light
New Haven Climate Movement
People's Action for Clean Energy
Save the Sound
Sherman Conservation Commission
Third Act Connecticut
Wilton Go Green, Inc.