

## More Info on Rockwool Plant in WV for MD Sierra Club

Submitted by Diana Woodall, October 20, 2019

Thanks for your interest in Rockwool, and sorry I didn't have a chance to introduce myself to most of you at the Jamboree. I am new to Maryland, but still involved in fighting two fracked gas pipelines in Virginia (the ACP and MVP)

Hagerstown, MD, about 12 miles north of the Jamoree and where I now live, is within a 35 mile radius of Rockwool, as are many communities in Maryland and northern Virginia. Rockwool is NOT just a West Virginia problem!

Here are some next steps:

1. Educate yourself, and then others, about Rockwool.

Rockwool. a/k/a Roxul, is both the name of a company (parent company is in Denmark) and a product--that pink insulation you may have in your house. Insulation is good, but the carbon footprint of making this stuff is very, very bad. The plant *currently being built* in Jefferson Co, WV is right close to 4 public schools, would emit all kinds of toxic pollutants into the air and water, AND require both coal and natural gas to operate 24/7 365 days a year.

Cellulose insulation is a much better choice.

2, Educate yourself, and then others, about the connection between Rockwool and the Potomac Pipeline. If Maryland can continue to block Columbia from drilling under the Potomac river to complete its pipeline, then Rockwool won't have easy access to the natural gas it needs. The price of natural gas is low right now, and gas pipeline companies are dreaming and scheming for ways to create a demand for natural gas instead of leaving it in the ground. Write to your MD legislators to tell them you still support NO new fracked gas pipelines or other infrastructure in MD! Then *let me know* how they respond. .

the flip side is that IF Rockwool is allowed to complete its construction and go into operation, WV officials have their eye on bringing in even MORE heavy industry to the same location. .

.Boo! That's really scary. . .

3. Join some of the groups in WV fighting Rockwool, including:

- Eastern Panhandle Green Coalition and/or sign up for their weekly email newsletter, and if you can, attend their meetings in Shepherdstown WV, usually on the 2nd and 4th Wed of the month. [Epgreencoalition.org](http://Epgreencoalition.org) [info@epgreencoalition.org](mailto:info@epgreencoalition.org)
- [Jefferson County Vision](#)

4. Public comment period is now open for a new storm water permit for Rockwool . You can access more info:

[https://apps.dep.wv.gov/MLists2/Archive/view\\_text.cfm?ListID=1&MessageID=27939](https://apps.dep.wv.gov/MLists2/Archive/view_text.cfm?ListID=1&MessageID=27939)

There will be an open **public hearing on Wed Oct 23**, from 6-8 pm in Shepherdstown, WV.

At Storer Ballroom at Shepherd University, 210 N King Street  
Come to support those who will be speaking, and bring your written comments to hand in as well. Comments will be taken until November 1, 2019

And/or mail comments to: Director, Division of Water and Management, DEP  
ATTN: Sharon Mullins, Permitting Section  
601 57th Street SE  
Charleston, WV 25304-2345

5. Attend or donate to the next fundraiser, Pickin' on Rockwool November 9 in Shepherdstown:

<https://www.jeffersoncountyvision.com/pickin-on-rockwool-save-the-date/>

6. Let me know if you have any experience with online petitions, as I would like to see one calling for a boycott of Rockwool products in stores such as Home Depot and Lowes

7., follow me (or tag me) on Twitter @novapipeline, as in NO Virginia pipeline,  
or email me, Diana Woodall at [agoodstretch@gmail.com](mailto:agoodstretch@gmail.com)