

## LEACH XPRESS PROJECT

# Frequently Asked Questions

Columbia Pipeline Group encourages open communication with all stakeholders on every project.

We recognize your right to know about and understand what is occurring on or near your property and within your community. We want to inform you about our proposed Leach XPress project and how you can participate in the process.

These questions and answers have been developed to support our commitment to keeping you informed. Additionally, Columbia's project team is available to answer your questions and address your concerns.

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### Why is the Leach XPress pipeline needed?

Energy exploration and development in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia has unlocked an abundance of natural gas — a clean, domestic energy resource that will fuel the nation and create local jobs and opportunity.

The Leach XPress pipeline is designed to transport up to 1.5 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas from Marcellus and Utica shale production areas in Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The pipeline will link locally produced energy with regional markets and provide natural gas users with a reliable and affordable new gas supply.

### What is the proposed pipeline route?

The Leach XPress pipeline will originate in Marshall County, West Virginia and travel through southwestern Pennsylvania and southeastern Ohio and end in Wayne County, West Virginia.

### What new infrastructure is included in the project?

The project includes the installation of more than 160 miles of new 30-inch and 36-inch-diameter pipeline and the construction of three new state-of-the-art compressor stations. The stations will be located near Majorsville, West Virginia and Summerfield and Oak Hill, Ohio.

### How are pipeline locations determined?

Columbia's engineering team and environmental specialists identify possible pipeline routes based upon the ability to construct new facilities safely and with minimal impact to the environment and local landowners and communities. Pipeline routes are continually refined during the project development phase before a formal application is submitted to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Ultimately, and after a careful review and balancing of environmental and landowner impacts, FERC will determine which pipeline route is accepted.

### Will I be notified if a proposed pipeline is going to affect my property?

Yes. Landowners with property that may be affected by a proposed pipeline route will be contacted early on by a Columbia representative and will be notified in advance of the need to conduct property surveys.

### Why does Columbia conduct land surveys?

Before building new infrastructure, Columbia conducts extensive engineering, environmental and archaeological surveys of the local area to find a pipeline route that will minimize land use, ensure safe construction and avoid sensitive cultural and environmental areas. Before surveying, a Columbia representative will contact a landowner to confirm a convenient date and time for our small crews of technical surveyors, engineers, biologists and archaeologists to assess their property.

### What is an easement?

In order to build a new pipeline project, Columbia must obtain an easement from a landowner granting the right to maintain and operate natural gas facilities. The easement is a recorded land rights transfer that conveys limited rights for a specific purpose to Columbia in exchange for financial compensation.

### What size will the easement be?

The amount of land required for an easement will vary depending on a number of factors. Typically, a 50-foot wide permanent easement for operation and maintenance of the pipeline, supplemented by an additional temporary workspace area of approximately 25 feet is requested from the landowner.

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**Can I still use my land if an easement is sold to Columbia?**

Yes. Pipeline easements do not transfer title of the land to Columbia. Only the limited rights to maintain and operate an underground natural gas facility are exchanged. Following construction, most surface uses of the land may continue as long as they are consistent with the terms of the agreed upon easement.

**What kind of safety programs does Columbia employ and follow?**

Columbia’s construction and operations meet or exceed the comprehensive federal pipeline safety program standards implemented by the U.S. Department of Transportation. New pipelines are made with high-strength steel and coated with an epoxy bonding to protect the pipeline when it is in service. Specially trained employees monitor the performance of all Columbia system pipelines from our Charleston, West Virginia Gas Control Center 24 hours per day. Our experienced pipeline integrity engineers oversee our continuous inspection program, which includes the use of state-of-the-art internal inspection devices called “smart pigs.”

**How will the environment be protected?**

Before construction can begin on the Leach XPress project, Columbia must participate in a thorough and transparent environmental review process overseen by FERC. A FERC review team will analyze the project’s proposed impact on land, water, air and wildlife resources and approve it only if such impacts are held to a minimum.

In addition to FERC’s review and approval, Columbia will have to obtain clearance from state and federal wildlife agencies, as well as state and federal water and air regulatory bodies. Columbia also plans to employ specialized construction when needed to protect sensitive environmental features. Environmental personnel will remain on site during project construction to ensure that steps are taken to protect land and water resources, and that restoration activities occur in a timely and thorough manner.

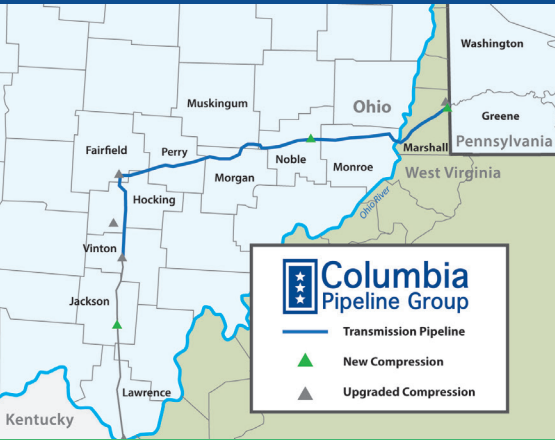
**Who is the primary regulatory agency that oversees the project?**

FERC will serve as the lead regulatory agency for this project. Project approval will require a “certificate of public convenience and necessity” from the FERC and also permits and/or consultation with federal and state natural resource agencies (US Army Corps of Engineers, US EPA, US Fish & Wildlife Service, State Departments of Environmental Protection and Departments of Natural Resources).

**How many jobs will the Leach XPress project create?**

The Leach XPress project is expected to create or support nearly 5,700 jobs through 2017 and generate close to \$2.3 billion in economic benefits. Additionally, the project is expected to generate significant new revenue for local services, particularly public education.

LEACH XPRESS PROJECT



IMPROVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

- **Installation of more than 160 miles of new 30-inch and 36-inch-diameter pipeline**
- **Construction of three new state-of-the-art compressor stations near:**
  - Majorsville, West Virginia
  - Summerfield, Ohio
  - Oak Hill, Ohio



ABOUT COLUMBIA PIPELINE GROUP

Columbia Pipeline Group operates approximately 15,000 miles of strategically located interstate pipeline, gathering and processing assets extending from New York to the Gulf of Mexico, including an extensive footprint in the Marcellus and Utica Shale production areas. CPG also operates one of the nation’s largest underground natural gas storage systems. Additional information can be found at [www.cpg.com](http://www.cpg.com).