



WASHINGTON PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



PSR LA
Physicians for Social Responsibility Los Angeles



PHYSICIANS FOR
SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Chairman Phillips and Commissioners Clements, Christie, and Danly;

RE: Opposition to the GTN Xpress Pipeline Project

We, the undersigned organizations representing over 10,000 healthcare professionals and physicians throughout the West Coast of the United States, are writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed expansion of the GTN Xpress pipeline. **This project poses significant risks to our environment, and the health and well-being of our communities.**

Physicians for Social Responsibility works to mobilize health professionals to advocate for climate solutions. As we represent states impacted by the GTN Xpress expansion project, which seeks to increase the volume of fracked methane gas through the aging Gas Transmission Northwest (GTN) pipeline, we must raise several critical concerns:

Environmental Impact: The project is expected to result in over 3.47 million metric tons of annual greenhouse gas emissions, significantly contributing to climate change. This is equivalent to the pollution generated by hundreds of thousands of additional passenger vehicles each year until 2052, or several new gas-fired power plants. These emissions are contrary to our goals of reducing climate pollution and transitioning to cleaner energy sources.

Public Health Risks: Communities located near pipeline routes and compressor stations face increased health risks, including exposure to cancer-causing pollutants. Additionally, residential gas use can lead to high levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) in homes, posing health risks, particularly to children and low-income communities.

Inconsistent with State Laws: The GTN Xpress project is inconsistent with the climate goals of Washington and Oregon, which are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Supporting a project that increases emissions contradicts the legislative efforts of our states to combat climate change.

Broad Opposition: This project has generated significant opposition from diverse stakeholders, including tribal organizations, state attorneys general, Senators and Governors from Washington, Oregon and California environmental, and ratepayer advocacy groups, and thousands of residents in the Western states.

We respectfully urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny approval for the GTN Xpress pipeline expansion project. The potential harms associated with this project are too great, and it is not in the best interest of our communities or the environment.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this critical matter and the vital role that the FERC plays in safeguarding our nation's energy infrastructure and environmental well-being. Your dedication to these important issues is essential in preserving the health and safety of our communities.

Sincerely,

Mark Vossler, MD
Climate Task Force Co-Chair, Board Member
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

Robert M. Gould, MD
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