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COMPRESSOR STATIONS 101

WHAT ARE COMPRESSOR STATIONS?

- Pipelines that transport gas need compressor stations to keep the gas flowing.
- Compressor stations add pressure to the gas and push it through the pipe.
- Compressor stations that are powered by gas produce harmful pollution as a result. Toxic air pollutants like formaldehyde and fine particulate matter (tiny fragments of pollution that are harmful when inhaled) can cause or make worse asthma, high blood pressure, and cardiovascular issues like arrhythmia and heart attacks.
- Compressor stations that run on electric motors produce much lower amounts of air pollution because they are not burning gas, which is a fossil fuel.

SSEP COMPRESSOR STATIONS

- In addition to laying new gas pipelines, Transco's Southeast Supply Enhancement Project (SSEP) proposal includes expanding several of its existing compressor stations, including two gas-powered stations in North Carolina
- Compressor Station 150 is located in Mooresville, at or near 236 Transco Road, Mooresville, NC, 28117
- Compressor Station 155 is located in Davidson County, North Carolina, at or near 650 Becky Hill Road, Lexington, NC 27295
- Compressor station 155 has operated since at least 1994; Compressor Station 150 has operated since 1949.

- A new report found that air pollution is already high in several communities where Transco proposes to build its Southeast Supply Enhancement Project, including those neighboring Compressor Stations 150 and 155.
- Although Transco currently plans to expand several of their compressor stations with electric power, which would produce less harmful pollution, the company plans to keep Compressor Stations 150 and 155 running with even more gas, instead of switching to electricity.

WHO DECIDES ABOUT PERMITTING A COMPRESSOR STATION AND WHAT DO THEY CONSIDER?

- When the government makes a decision about whether or not to permit a
 pipeline (or part of a pipeline, like a compressor station) to move forward, the
 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is required by law to study the
 environmental effects of the project and to consider other options that could
 be less harmful.
 - In the case of the Southeast Supply Enhancement Project, one of those less harmful options is upgrading Compressor Stations 150 and 155 to run on electricity instead of gas.
- The NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is the state regulatory agency that will review SSEP's air permits and decide whether or not to grant them.
 - You can join impacted community members and advocates in demanding DEQ complete a thorough assessment of local ambient air quality and community health in neighborhoods surrounding Compressor Stations 150 and 155, to assess the health impacts of increased air pollution on local residents.

WHERE DO THINGS STAND NOW?

- In January 2025, FERC announced its plans to prepare an Environmental
 Assessment (EA) for SSEP, instead of a more robust Environmental Impact
 Statement (EIS). This decision includes a shortened public comment period,
 and ignored over 7,000 comments from members of the public, almost 100
 non-profit organizations, more than a dozen North Carolina legislators, the
 Mayor of Oak Ridge, and a Forsyth County Commissioner demanding a full EIS.
 - Any member of the public can submit comments urging FERC to conduct a full EIS at <u>www.ferc.gov</u>, Docket No. CP25-10-000.
- In April 2025, Transco's applications for the North Carolina air permits for proposed compressor Stations 150 & 155 went live. DEQ will soon announce the public comment period.
- For comment period updates and step-by-step comment guides, visit the online toolkit at <u>bit.ly/SSEPtoolkit</u>









