

Pipeline Safety

Pipelines are the safest way to transport oil across North America, and TransCanada is a North American energy transportation leader with an industry-leading safety record. From design and construction to operations and maintenance, safety is our top priority.

Our safety program begins before construction with the selection of high-quality materials and the use of best practice techniques to ensure the integrity of our pipelines. We require every weld made on our pipelines to be inspected by qualified independent inspectors and are the only company in North America that regularly uses automated ultrasonic testing of our pipes to check for irregularities before they go into service.

We implement state-of-the-art leak detection systems, elevated safety features and specialized staff training employed on our oil pipelines to further protect our infrastructure, making us confident leaks would be quickly identified and responded to.

Along with these safety practices, the Energy East Pipeline will also have a comprehensive Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to protect landowners, the communities, emergency responders and employees while we minimize the potential impacts of an emergency. The ERP for the project will be finalized prior to the start of operations and will meet or exceed all federal and provincial standards.

Detecting Irregularities in the Pipeline when Operating

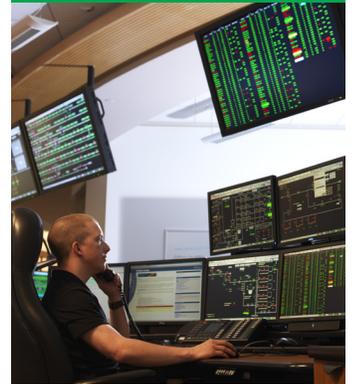
TransCanada's Operations Control Centre (OCC) is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained operators at the OCC manage the most sophisticated monitoring equipment available, providing them with the ability to respond to any potential emergency. Operators can stop the pipeline flow within minutes from the time our sensors detect an irregularity. If an irregular condition is detected (e.g. a drop in pressure), the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System (SCADA) will alert operators in the OCC to immediately shut down pump stations along the pipeline segment.

Once the pumps have been stopped, the OCC will close shut-off valves near the area of the emergency to limit potential impacts. In addition to shutting down the pipeline section, the OCC will immediately dispatch pipeline emergency response personnel to the scene.

Local Officials and Emergency Management Services Involvement

TransCanada does not expect volunteer or dedicated local fire departments to have the equipment or experience to respond to a leak. However, local law enforcement, fire departments and other local emergency responders may initially be required to secure the scene and ensure the safety and security of the public just as they would any other local incident. That's why TransCanada works collaboratively with emergency responders on a continuous basis, inviting them to participate in exercises and training to better understand our processes.

Energy East Pipeline



Contact us

We encourage your input and invite interested stakeholders to contact us.

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