



# GTN XPRESS PIPELINE

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR GUIDE

TC Energy is full steam ahead with plans to expand its Gas Transmission Northwest (GTN) pipeline by 250,000 dekatherms per day (Dth/d). For context, one dekatherm would provide enough gas to service five average-sized households fully; so TC Energy's expansion is equivalent to the amount of gas necessary to service 1.2 million households each day. That's an awful lot of gas to be piping into a region that is clearly moving away from its reliance on fracked gas. The increased fracked gas could feed proposed power plants and petrochemical facilities in the Pacific Northwest.

GTN, which is wholly owned by TC Pipelines, operates a 1,353-mile-long interstate natural gas pipeline system that transports West Canadian Sedimentary Basin (WCSB) and Rocky Mountain-source natural gas to third-party natural gas pipelines and markets in Washington, Oregon, and California. It originates near Kingsgate, British Columbia, and terminates near Malin, OR.

This expansion project is clearly not in the public interest, and we're working hard to make sure that the public knows about this.

## What is a Letter to the Editor?

Letters to the editor (LTEs) are important for three reasons. First, if a media outlet receives a lot of LTEs about a specific topic, they are more likely to cover that topic. This makes our rallies and other media events more successful. Second, besides the obituaries, they are the most read part of the newspaper. Third, public officials check letters to the editor to see where their constituents are on certain issues. This informs them of what stance they should take.

Let's build momentum in opposition to the GTN Xpress Pipeline expansion by publishing hundreds of letters in newspapers across WA, OR and CA!

## Quick tips:

1. **Keep it short and simple.** Write a letter that is 250 words or less. Focus on one aspect of why you oppose this per letter. You can submit multiple letters, or have your friends submit them for you!
2. **Make it personal.** Why do *you* care? Use your experience as a community member and connect with the local audience.
3. **End with a call to action:** We need the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny the permit for GTN Xpress because the project is contrary to the public interest. And we are calling on our U.S. Senators and Governors in Washington and Oregon to speak up for the Northwest and oppose the project.

## Talking points: stick to 1-2 of these per letters:

- TC Energy claims that its GTN Xpress pipeline expansion is needed to meet rising gas demand in the Pacific Northwest when the region is weaning itself off of polluting fossil fuels.
- Expanding GTN would emit millions of metric tons of CO2 equivalent into the atmosphere every year which is inconsistent with Washington's and Oregon's laws that require decreasing emissions by 95% and 75%, respectively, by 2050.
- Increasing the pressure on the GTN pipeline, which was originally constructed in the 1960s, increases safety risks if the aging pipeline fails.
- The GTN Xpress Pipeline project would leak fracked gas, which is primarily the potent greenhouse gas methane, into the environment, threatening public health and our climate.
- Constructing new fracked gas infrastructure would lock in fossil fuel use for another 30 years.
- If demand doesn't reach the level projected, GTN can ask FERC for permission to raise rates across the board. So current GTN customers - even those who did not contract for the increased capacity - could be on the hook to pay for the project down the line.
- FERC should deny the GTN Xpress project. Oregon and Washington's federal delegation should speak up soon to hold FERC accountable and ensure FERC doesn't rubberstamp the project and ignore concerns raised by the states of Oregon, Washington, and California.

## Sample letter:

Start with something personal- how does this project affect you? Why do you care?

Fill in with 1-2 of the talking points above.

End with a call to action: Tell the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to deny the permit for GTN XPress because the project is contrary to the public interest

Example:

Dear Editor,

I have felt first-hand how the extreme heat and wildfires have affected my community. It seems to get worse every year. Our region is taking important steps to reduce fossil fuel use - so I was shocked to learn about TC Energy's proposal to greatly *increase* the capacity of a major fracked gas pipeline that runs through Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

The GTN XPress project would add enough new fracked gas to service 1.2 million homes. Our region is wisely weaning itself off of dirty fracked gas: let's not expand pipelines now. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission will soon make a decision on whether to approve or deny the misguided GTN XPress. I am one of many Northwest residents calling on the federal government to deny the permit and choose clean and healthy, renewable energy instead. Now is the time for our U.S. Senators to speak up hold FERC accountable and to support the concerns raised by Oregon and Washington about TC Energy's fracked gas expansion.

Thank you.

(your name)

## How to Submit:

You can submit the same letter to multiple newspapers. Include your contact information: full name, address, phone number, and email address. They will only print your name.

Please do not submit LTE's into papers in communities you do not live in.

### King County:

- Seattle Times: [letters@seattletimes.com](mailto:letters@seattletimes.com)
- Bellevue Reporter: <http://www.bellevuereporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Redmond Reporter: <http://www.redmond-reporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Kent Reporter: <http://www.kentreporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Tukwila reporter: <http://www.tukwilareporter.com/submit-letter/>
- Crosscut: <https://crosscut.com/contact-us>
- Vashon Beachcomber: <https://www.vashonbeachcomber.com/submit-letter/>

### SW Washington:

- Columbian: <http://www.columbian.com/lettertotheeditor/>
- Daily News: [https://tdn-dot-com.bloxcms.com/forms/online\\_services/letter/letter\\_editor\\_imported-1364312177\\_imported-1364333042/](https://tdn-dot-com.bloxcms.com/forms/online_services/letter/letter_editor_imported-1364312177_imported-1364333042/)
- Reflector: [https://www.thereflector.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.thereflector.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)
- Camas/Washougal Post Record: <https://www.camapostrecord.com/letter-to-the-editor/>
- White-salmon Enterprise: <http://www.whitesalmonenterprise.com/submit/letter-to-the-editor/>

### Pierce county/ I-5 Corridor:

- Tacoma News Tribune: <http://www.thenewstribune.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/>
- Tacoma Weekly: <https://tacomaweekly.com/contact/>
- Olympian: <http://www.theolympian.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/>
- Centralia Chronicle: [https://www.chronline.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter/](https://www.chronline.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/)

### Snohomish County:

- Snohomish County Tribune: [letters@snoho.com](mailto:letters@snoho.com)
- Everett Herald Net: [letters@heraldnet.com](mailto:letters@heraldnet.com)
- My Edmonds News: [myedmondsnews@gmail.com](mailto:myedmondsnews@gmail.com)

### Kitsap County:

- Kitsap Daily News: <https://www.kitsapdailynews.com/submit-letter/>
- Kitsap Sun: <https://www.kitsapsun.com/pages/interactives/submit-letter/>

### Spokane/ Eastern Washington:

- Spokesman-Review: <http://www.spokesman.com/letters/submit/>
- Cheney Free Press: <http://www.cheneyfreepress.com/contact>
- Spokane Valley News Herald;  
[http://www.spokanevalleyonline.com/ads/valley\\_news\\_subscribe/subscribe\\_valleynewsherald.html](http://www.spokanevalleyonline.com/ads/valley_news_subscribe/subscribe_valleynewsherald.html)
- Liberty Lake Splash: [editor@libertylakesplash.com](mailto:editor@libertylakesplash.com)
- Moscow Pullman Daily News: [letters@dnews.com](mailto:letters@dnews.com)
- Lewiston Morning Tribune: [letters@lmtribune.com](mailto:letters@lmtribune.com)
- Colfax Gazette: [gazette@colfax.com](mailto:gazette@colfax.com)
- Tri-City Herald: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/contact>

## Eastern Oregon:

- East Oregonian (Northeast Oregon including Umatilla & Morrow Counties): [https://www.eastoregonian.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor](https://www.eastoregonian.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor)

## Malheur County

- Argus Observer: [https://www.argusobserver.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter/](https://www.argusobserver.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/)
- Malheur Enterprise: <https://www.malheurenterprise.com/contact> or email the editor: [les@malheurenterprise.com](mailto:les@malheurenterprise.com). Be sure to explain that you are submitting a letter to the editor for publication and try to aim for 250 words.

## Klamath/Lake/Modoc County

- Herald and News: <https://www.heraldandnews.com/site/forms/letters/>

## Jackson County

- Mail Tribune: email to [letters@rosebudmedia.com](mailto:letters@rosebudmedia.com)
- Daily Tidings: email to [tidingsopinion@rosebudmedia.com](mailto:tidingsopinion@rosebudmedia.com)

## Josephine County

- Daily Courier: <http://web.thedailycourier.com/form/letters/form.html>

## Douglas County

- Roseburg News Review: [https://www.nrtdaily.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.nrtdaily.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)

## Coos County

- The World: [https://theworldlink.com/forms/contact/letter\\_to\\_the\\_editor/](https://theworldlink.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/)

## Baker County

- Baker City Herald: [https://www.bakercityherald.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.bakercityherald.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)

## Benton County

- Corvallis Gazette-Times: [https://www.gazettetimes.com/forms/contact/letter\\_to\\_the\\_editor/](https://www.gazettetimes.com/forms/contact/letter_to_the_editor/) or email [news@gazettetimes.com](mailto:news@gazettetimes.com)

## Clatsop County

- The Daily Astorian: [https://www.dailyastorian.com/site/forms/online\\_services/letter\\_editor/](https://www.dailyastorian.com/site/forms/online_services/letter_editor/)

## Columbia County

- Columbia County Spotlight submit here: [Pamplin Media Group](#)

## Deschutes County

- Bend Bulletin: [https://www.bendbulletin.com/site/forms/online\\_services/submitting\\_letters\\_to\\_the\\_bulletin/](https://www.bendbulletin.com/site/forms/online_services/submitting_letters_to_the_bulletin/)

## Portland Area (Multnomah/Washington/Clackamas Counties)

- Portland Tribune submit here: [Pamplin Media Group](#) (this is the same submission link for their papers in Beaverton, Clackamas, Canby, Central Oregon, Estacada, Forest Grove, Gresham, Hillsboro, Lake Oswego, Madras, Molalla, Newberg, Oregon City, Sandy, Sellwood, Columbia County, Tigard & Tualatin, West Linn, Wilsonville, and Woodburn)
- Willamette Week: email to [mzusman@wweek.com](mailto:mzusman@wweek.com)
- Portland Mercury: Email letters to [lovenotes@portlandmercury.com](mailto:lovenotes@portlandmercury.com)
- Portland Observer: Email letters to [news@portlandobserver.com](mailto:news@portlandobserver.com)
- The Skanner: Email letters to [bobbie@theskanner.com](mailto:bobbie@theskanner.com)

## Eugene/Lane County

- Register-Guard: email to [rgletters@registerguard.com](mailto:rgletters@registerguard.com)
- Guest Viewpoint: 500-700 words, email to [bomeara@registerguard.com](mailto:bomeara@registerguard.com)
- Eugene Weekly: email to [letters@eugeneweekly.com](mailto:letters@eugeneweekly.com)
- Guest Viewpoint: email to [editor@eugeneweekly.com](mailto:editor@eugeneweekly.com)

## Marion County:

- Woodburn Independent: [Pamplin Media Group](#)
- Statesman Journal: Email to [letters@StatesmanJournal.com](mailto:letters@StatesmanJournal.com) or use the online submission form: <http://community.statesmanjournal.com/email/letters.html>
- Guest Opinion: <http://community.statesmanjournal.com/email/guest.html>
- Salem Reporter: <https://www.salemreporter.com/contact>, [info@salemreporter.com](mailto:info@salemreporter.com)