



Institute for
Policy Integrity
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STATEMENT ON FERC’S CHANGES TO PIPELINE REVIEW

Today, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) [met](#) to consider how it determines whether proposed gas pipelines are in the public interest and should be approved. For years, the Commission has considered only whether a pipeline secures gas transport contracts—[without considering other key factors](#) such as projects’ contributions to climate change or regional overbuild. As outlined by Commission staff today, the updated Policy Statement seeks to more fully incorporate environmental considerations into its public interest determination, including climate impacts and impacts on environmental justice communities. The Commission today also set out a draft framework to solicit more complete information from applicants and more systematically consider climate impacts of proposed projects. The text of these policy statements has not yet been released.

Sarah Ladin, Attorney at the Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU School of Law, issued the following statement:

“Today’s move will realign FERC’s evaluation to account for a broader range of factors, including climate change considerations. The old approach had enormous blind spots in how it assessed what was in the public interest. The reforms described in today’s meeting will help facilitate a more comprehensive and transparent process, in which stakeholder concerns about climate and justice are not just heard, but meaningfully considered and incorporated into the Commission’s decisionmaking.”

Ladin is available for interviews on this issue.

More information is also available in [our recent report](#), ***Reforming Pipeline Review: Taking a Closer Look at the Need for New Natural Gas Infrastructure.***

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