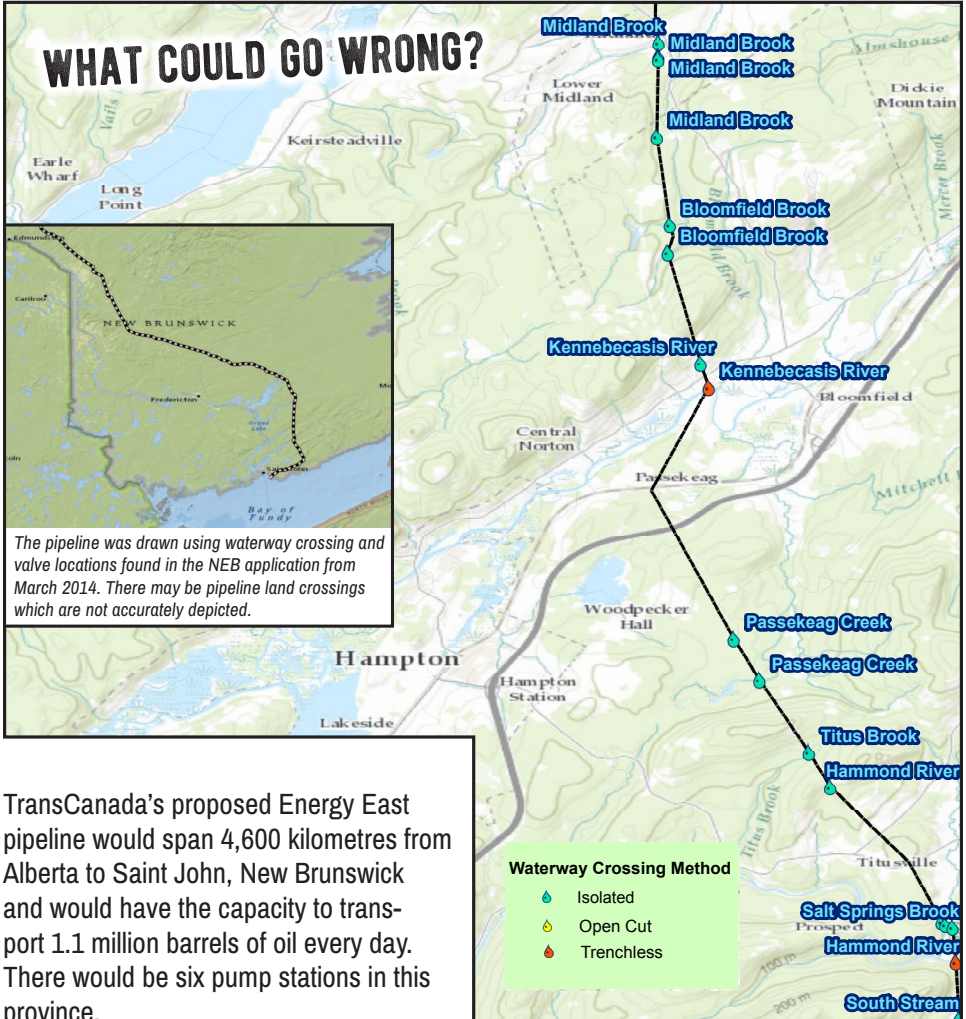


Energy East Pipeline and Kennebecasis Bay and River

TransCanada's Energy East project, the largest tar sands pipeline proposed yet, crosses more than 280 rivers and streams in New Brunswick, including the Kennebecasis River.



TransCanada's proposed Energy East pipeline would span 4,600 kilometres from Alberta to Saint John, New Brunswick and would have the capacity to transport 1.1 million barrels of oil every day. There would be six pump stations in this province.

This pipeline has not yet been approved. TransCanada has already been forced to push back the construction timeline for this pipeline after cancelling the proposed Cacouna port because of strong opposition in Quebec. Construction is slated to begin in 2017. Expected federal government changes to pipeline reviews are expected to cause further delays.

What does Energy East mean for Kennebecasis Bay and River?

Energy East would ship oil, including diluted bitumen from the tar sands, which presents heightened risks when spilled in or near waterways. Heavy bitumen sinks more quickly in water, making it harder to cleanup. A recent federal report concluded that not enough is known about the toxicity of bitumen, or its effects.

A diluted bitumen spill would threaten to contaminate Kennebecasis Bay and River. Kennebecasis Bay is a fjord-like estuary of the Saint John River that exhibits tidal influence from the Bay of Fundy. The Energy East pipeline path directly crosses the Kennebecasis River between Bloomfield and Hampton. This part of the river is under tidal influence, meaning a spill in or near the crossing also threatens to contaminate Kennebecasis Bay.

Hampton is home to significant farmland and wetland areas. Well water is drawn in wetland areas near the pipeline route, raising contamination concerns in the event of a spill. Despite community concern and a direct proposal from a concerned resident, TransCanada has refused to alter the pipeline path.. The change would have seen the route follow an area with major power lines, avoid key farmland and move to an area where there is less tidal influence.

The Energy East pipeline is facing a growing wall of opposition all along its route because of the serious risks it presents while offering few rewards.

- TransCanada's pipeline safety record in Canada is bad and is getting worse.
- Energy East will not mean less Atlantic oil imports. Up to 1 million of Energy East's 1.1 million barrels per day is destined for more lucrative international markets.
- Studies show that TransCanada has a track record of overestimating job promises. Meanwhile, a spill in a river or the Bay of Fundy could devastate thousands of good, local jobs in the tourism and fishing industry.
- Energy East would enable further tar sands expansion, making meaningful cuts to carbon pollution nearly impossible.

For more information about the Council of Canadians Energy East New Brunswick campaign visit NoEnergyEastNB.ca or call (506) 292-7190.