

# Should New Pipelines Be Built in Canada?

## **Yes**

*Here are some of the reasons why people might argue that **new pipelines should not be built** in Canada.*

### **Climate change**

Burning fossil fuels is a major contributor to climate change. There is a growing consensus around the need to transition to cleaner energy sources as soon as possible. Investing in pipelines represents commitment to a carbon-emitting form of energy we should be moving away from.

### **Environmental concerns**

Pipelines pose a significant risk to the environment. Oil spills are not uncommon and can contaminate water sources and harm wildlife, leading to long-term environmental damage.

### **Indigenous rights**

Many of Canada's proposed pipeline projects cross Indigenous lands, raising concerns about the impact on traditional territories, cultural practices, and rights. For example, the Wet'suwet'en Nation's hereditary chiefs have fought the proposed Coastal GasLink Pipeline in British Columbia, which was the subject of protests and blockades in 2020.

### **Cost**

Some argue that investing in oil pipelines is not economically viable in the long term, given the global shift toward renewable energy sources and decreasing demand for oil. When the Canadian government purchased the TransMountain Pipeline in 2018 for 4.5 billion dollars, the move was condemned by many and the project's cost has since increased to \$30.9 billion.

### **Public Safety**

Pipelines have been known to leak or rupture. Pipeline accidents can release toxic and flammable substances into the air and water, putting nearby communities at risk.

### **Read More:**

- [How Indigenous pipeline resistance keeps emissions in the ground](#) | CBC
- [Huge expansion of oil pipelines endangering climate, says report | Oil](#) | The Guardian
- [Everything you need to know about the tar sands and how they impact you](#) | Greenpeace Canada
- [Cost of Trans Mountain expansion pipeline keeps climbing, now \\$30.9B](#) | CBC