

New Jersey Highlands Council **Letter 33**

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Consistent with the longer comment just submitted, I would like to emphasize that oil pipelines pose very different risks from gas pipelines. Oil pipeline leaks ooze and flow -- they do not dissipate the way natural gas leaks do. As a result they are very likely to badly pollute rivers, aquifers, soil, roads, businesses and homeowners' yards. This is another reason why the Pilgrim Crude Oil Pipelines proposal is consistent with BOTH tenets of the Highlands: resource protection AND economic development. Under no circumstances should a massive double crude oil pipeline be permitted to traverse the Highlands. The Regional Master Plan should be updated to be very clear on this point, and leave no loopholes through which such a pipeline can feed through.

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