

Meeting Midwest demand, strengthening energy security: NEXUS project enters service

by Anne O'Dell | Nov 16, 2018 |



Measuring responsiveness is a tricky bit of business. But in the case of the [NEXUS Gas Transmission project](#), call it 91 percent.

As in, 91 percent of the proposed route for this interstate natural gas transmission pipeline—that's 231 of 256 miles in all—that was changed due to landowner requests, avoidance of sensitive resources, or engineering considerations. The NEXUS pipeline—a 50/50 joint venture between Enbridge and DTE Energy — entered service in October 2018, and began transporting a much-needed, cleaner-burning and affordable source of natural gas to Ohio, Michigan and Ontario. NEXUS will help the region meet the growing demand for natural gas-fired generation, with this cleaner and more versatile fuel powering the region's homes and businesses.

But not before more than 30 public meetings with landowners, community members, public officials, and government agencies gathered input — and resulted in 239 route changes along roughly 231 miles.

“The successful execution of the NEXUS project speaks to the project team's unwavering dedication to safety, environmental compliance and landowner engagement,” said David Slater, president, Gas Storage and Pipeline business for DTE Energy.

For more than four years, NEXUS worked with landowners, key stakeholders, and state and federal agencies to develop a balanced approach to designing, constructing and operating the pipeline.

The NEXUS pipeline is designed to carry as much as 1.5 billion cubic feet per day of natural gas. That's enough natural gas to meet the needs of more than six million North American homes a year.

NEXUS will diversify the region's energy sources, and provide energy security and reliability in the region, by delivering natural gas to consumers in northern Ohio, southeastern Michigan and the Dawn Hub in Ontario, Canada. Among the project's highlights:

- The construction phase created approximately 6,800 jobs and \$660 million in wages;
- In its first five years of operation, NEXUS is estimated to generate \$412 million in local tax revenue, of which \$125 million will go directly to local school districts in Ohio and Michigan;
- 18 Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) operations under rivers or other environmentally sensitive areas; and
- Roughly 87 percent of the route follows existing utility corridors or traverses agricultural areas.

NEXUS also recognizes that operating in communities is a privilege. NEXUS has partnered with communities located along the pipeline route to support programs in education, workforce development, community vitality and environmental stewardship, contributing nearly \$1 million in community grant funding in Ohio and Michigan.