

Energy East/Kinder Morgan Pipelines (Feb. 2-5, 2016)

Now, we'd like to ask you some questions about Canada's energy policy.

1. As you may be aware, mayors in the Montreal area, including Montreal mayor Denis Coderre, have recently come out in opposition to the proposed Energy East pipeline, which would convert an existing natural gas pipeline to carry oil from Alberta's oilsands through the Montreal area on its way to St. John, New Brunswick. How closely would you say you've been following this issue? Would you say you are:

Following it in the news and discussing it with friends and family
Seeing some media coverage and having the odd conversation about it
Just scanning the headlines
Haven't seen or heard anything

2. [SHOW MAP OF THE ENERGY EAST PIPELINE] This map from Energy East shows the pipeline route, with the already existing natural gas pipeline sections shown in blue and the sections that would be new construction shown in green.

Thinking about the Energy East pipeline project as outlined above, would you say you support or oppose each of the following?

[ROWS – ROTATE]

The Montreal-area officials who have been speaking out against Energy East
The Energy East pipeline conversion and extension

Strongly oppose
Moderately oppose
Moderately support
Strongly support

3. Energy East is not the first pipeline to meet with opposition in the communities through which it would pass. British Columbians – and their governments – have opposed the development of other proposed pipelines in recent years.

[SHOW MAP OF KINDER MORGAN PIPELINE] One of these is the proposed "twinning" of Kinder Morgan's TransMountain pipeline which goes through Burnaby, B.C., to which the government of the province recently announced its opposition, and which has been the subject of public protests over the years. Based on whatever you have seen, read, or heard, would you say you support or oppose each of the following?

[ROWS – RANDOMIZE]

The protests against the expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline
The expansion of the Kinder Morgan pipeline through Burnaby, British Columbia

Strongly oppose
Moderately oppose

Moderately support
Strongly support

4. And, regardless of how you personally feel about each of these pipeline projects, what do you think will ultimately happen with each of them? Do you think:

[ROWS – ROTATE]

The Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion

The Energy East pipeline conversion and extension

Will go ahead despite local objections

Will probably go ahead even if local objections slow it down

Will likely never happen, especially given local objections

5. Thinking about these sorts of cases, in which the federal government approves or supports a pipeline, but provincial or municipal governments are opposed, which of the following statements is closer to your point of view?

[ROTATE]

The federal government should have the final say since these have a wider impact

Local governments should have the power to stop pipelines from being built through their jurisdictions

6. In shaping Canada's energy policy, which of the following do you see as a bigger priority?

[ROTATE]

Protecting the environment

Encouraging economic growth

7. [SHOW MAPS AGAIN] Here are the maps of these two pipeline projects again. Think about where you personally live. Would you say you live along either of these pipeline routes (say, within 20 km of either one)?

Yes, I live along the Energy East pipeline

Yes, I live along the Kinder Morgan pipeline

No, I don't live along either of these pipeline routes

Questions for a Feb. 26 Omni

1. As you may recall, an international conference in Paris last December brought together 195 countries, including Canada. Those countries agreed to a plan to limit global warming to less than 2 degrees Celsius. The agreement calls for countries to set their own “nationally determined contributions” to reducing the greenhouse gas emissions causing global warming.

Based on whatever you’ve seen, read, or heard about this agreement, would you say you support or oppose Canada’s participation in it?

Strongly support
Moderately support
Moderately oppose
Strongly oppose
Not sure

2. The federal government has indicated it will reveal Canada’s contribution after consulting with provincial and territorial governments. Leaders will meet in Vancouver next week to discuss this issue and to work towards a national agreement on emissions reduction targets.

How confident are you that the federal and provincial governments will reach an agreement setting specific new targets for reducing Canada's greenhouse gas emissions within, say, the next year? Would you say you are:

Very confident
Somewhat confident
Not very confident
Not at all confident

3. Canada's current target – announced in May 2015 – is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 30 per cent below 2005 levels by 2030. Assuming the First Ministers set specific new targets that are at least somewhat more ambitious for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, how confident are you that Canada will actually meet those new targets? Would you say that is:

Very likely
Somewhat likely
Not very likely
Not at all likely
Not sure