

# TransCanada's – Houston Lateral



The Gulf Coast Project is an approximate 485-mile (780-kilometre), 36-inch crude oil pipeline beginning in Cushing, OK and extending south to Nederland, TX to serve the Gulf Coast marketplace. The 48-mile (77-kilometre) Houston Lateral Project is an additional project under development to transport oil to refineries in the Houston, TX marketplace. Upon completion, the Gulf Coast Project and the Houston Lateral Project will become an integrated component of the Keystone Pipeline System.

These are critical infrastructure projects for the energy security of the United States and the American economy. U.S. crude oil production has been growing significantly in Oklahoma, Texas, North Dakota and Montana. Producers do not have access to enough pipeline capacity to move this production to the large refining market along the U.S. Gulf Coast. The Gulf Coast Project will address this constraint, as will the Houston Lateral Project.



## Houston Lateral



Construction on the Gulf Coast Project commenced August, 2012, with an anticipated in service date of late 2013. The Gulf Coast Project will have the initial capacity to transport 700,000 barrels of oil per day and can be expanded to transport 830,000 barrels of oil per day to Gulf Coast refineries. Current plans for the Houston Lateral are for construction activities to begin in the third quarter of 2013 and commercial operation to commence in early 2014.

The proposed route of the Houston Lateral, which will involve building a pipeline through the counties of Liberty, Chambers and Harris to Houston's refining center, has been selected to minimize impacts to the land, environment and landowners. Route selection involves balancing different factors such as length; sensitive environmental features (rivers, wetlands, endangered and protected species), construction issues, paralleling existing infrastructure such as roads and other pipelines and considering stakeholder concerns.

The final route will take into consideration detailed fieldwork and environmental surveys. The surveys may include engineering, environmental and archaeological surveys and are all part of a preliminary assessment process and a vital part of the project.

### Contact Info

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