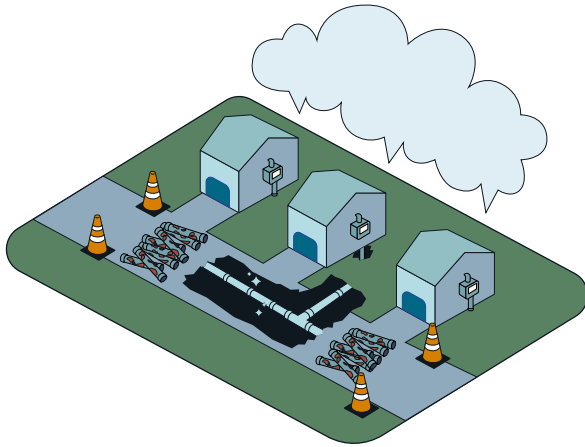


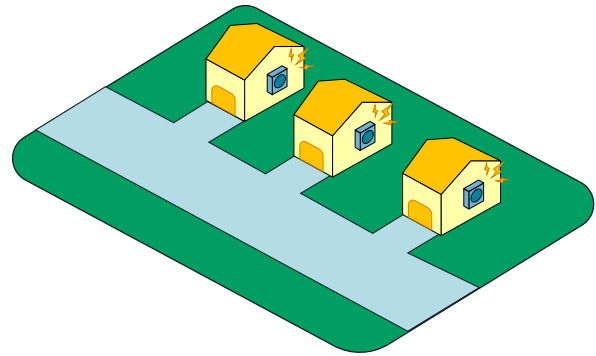
Targeted Electrification in NYS

An Alternative to Leak-Prone Pipeline Replacement



Leak-prone Pipeline (LPP) Replacement

Completely replace old metal pipes with new plastic ones.



Targeted Electrification

Decommission old metal pipes, electrify and weatherize affected buildings.

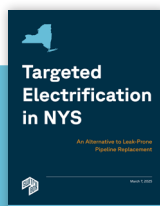
A new report from Switchbox analyzes the potential scale of **targeted electrification** to avoid **leak-prone pipeline** (LPP) replacements in New York State, and finds that:

COSTS FROM LPP REPLACEMENT

- From 2011 to 2021, New York gas utilities spent **\$15.7 billion** on expanding and upgrading their pipelines, much of it on leak-prone pipe replacement—and paying for these investments through rate hikes.¹
- **15%** of the state's pipes are leak-prone.
- To fully replace all leak-prone pipe by 2050 (7,341 miles), Switchbox estimates that utilities will spend an additional **\$43 billion**.

Read full report

For the complete analysis, read the full report at switch.box/lpp



SAVINGS FROM TARGETED ELECTRIFICATION

- Targeted building electrification, implemented where feasible and cost-effective, could reduce this cost by an estimated **\$4.7 billion**, while electrifying **313,331** households.²
- In areas where targeted electrification makes the most sense, it would cost an estimated **\$10,465** less to electrify and weatherize each household (and upgrade the local distribution grid) than it would cost to replace its leak-prone pipe. The cost savings will grow to **\$51,958** by 2050.

THE ROLE OF NY HEAT

- Current law makes it nearly impossible for utilities to avoid LPP replacement with targeted electrification. If a single customer objects, it locks the entire neighborhood into gas even if the alternatives are cheaper
- By reforming the obligation to serve—while encouraging residents to weigh in before projects move forward—the **NY HEAT Act**³ would remove this obstacle, unlocking the state's ability to curb gas rate hikes while cutting climate pollution.

WHO IS SWITCHBOX?

Switchbox is a nonprofit think tank that produces rigorous, accessible data on state climate policy for advocates, policymakers, & the public.



Find out more at www.switch.box.

FOOTNOTES

- 1** Source: "Future of Gas in New York State" (Building Decarbonization Coalition, 2023)
- 2** In reality, savings will likely be larger: do not account for cost declines for heat pumps, or down-the-road costs for LPP replacement, including financing costs, repairs, leak detection, safety measures, and pipe decommissioning.
- 3** NY HEAT would eliminate the utility obligation to provide methane gas service to any customer within 100 feet of a gas pipeline.

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