TransCanada Natural Gas Pipeline Exploded In West Virginia

A newly installed TransCanada natural gas pipeline exploded last Thursday morning in the remote Nixon Ridge area of Marshall County in West Virginia, sending a ball of fire shooting up into the sky. People as far away as Washington County reported seeing flames. WTOV-TV states that the explosion occurred in a TransCanada pipeline. No injuries have been reported.

> *It sounded like a freight train coming through, or a tornado, and the sky lit up bright orange, and then I got up and looked out the window and flames were shooting I don't know how far into the sky." — Tina Heath-Chaplin, of Moundsville*

WTOV-TV in Steubenville, Ohio, reported that the explosion happened on June 7th shortly before 4:30 a.m.

Area police told CBS News "…if you can see it from your house, evacuate," but reports showed that the flames could be seen from at least 20 miles away.

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> *This picture sent to me from a viewer in Short Creek, WV. Perspective: this is 20 MILES or more away, over a half hour drive! @WTRF7News pic.twitter.com/yAmFJUnKmO*
>
> *— Tessa DiTirro (@TessOnTV) June 7, 2018*

TransCanada is the company behind the infamous Keystone pipeline. Shortly after the explosion, the

company stated that the situation had been contained.

> *As soon as the issue was identified, emergency response procedures were enacted and the segment of impacted pipeline was isolated. The fire was fully extinguished by approximately 8:30 a.m.”*

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https://www.facebook.com/ruby.mason.54/videos/1587635261364082/

This pipeline is the Leach XPress. It was put into service January 1, 2018. TransCanada emphasized that the pipeline was built very quickly, but also safely.

> *We’re looking forward to generations of safe operations. This is truly a best-in-class pipeline and we look forward to many years of safe, reliable, and efficient operation on behalf of our customers.” – ” Scott Castleman, manager of U.S. Gas Communications for TransCanada*

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