

## SEPTA's what? Building a shale gas power plant!?

That's #unSEPTAinable! Don't they know we need to #keepitintheground? That we can't afford to drill for & burn more fossil fuels?

Shale gas isn't good for the environment

- shale gas emits greenhouse gases, causing climate change
- drilling for shale gas, also called fracking, is a dirty process, contaminating streams & drinking water for folks nearby
- transporting shale gas requires pipelines, which often leak methane, which is worse for climate change than carbon dioxide.
- pipelines are being forced thru unwilling communities, often pushing thru farmland, even maple sugaring groves.
- a shale power plant might use less coal, but is worse for climate change over decades

This is a bad investment

- SEPTA would be locked into using natural gas for 20 years, when natural gas prices are projected to go up, while prices for wind or solar generated electricity are projected to go down.

And look what solar can do

- transit agencies across the world, even NJTransit, are putting solar panels on their facilities.
- the same electricity could be generated for much less with solar

- 1 SEPTA's commitment to reducing its own greenhouse gas emissions  
<http://www.septa.org/sustain/environmental.html>
- 2 SEPTA's also committed to improving regional air quality <http://www.septa.org/sustain/blog/2011/02-25.html>
- 3 SEPTA's sustainability plan  
<http://www.septa.org/sustain/environmental.html>
- 4 SEPTA's climate adaptation plan <http://www.septa.org/strategic-plan/updates/2015-climate-adaptation-report.htm>
- 5 Switching from coal to natural gas is worse for climate, increases global warming for decades  
<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2011/09/09/315845/natural-gas-switching-from-coal-to-gas-increases-warming-for-decades/>
- 6 Natural gas leakage rate is higher than 3.2%  
<http://www.energyjustice.net/files/naturalgas/2012alvarez.pdf>
- 7 leakage of 2.8%  
[http://psehealthyenergy.org/data/Methane\\_Science\\_Summary\\_Oct20143.pdf](http://psehealthyenergy.org/data/Methane_Science_Summary_Oct20143.pdf)
- 8 Pollutants released by natural gas power plants, affecting local air quality and harming people who live nearby as well as SEPTA workers. [http://pacificenvironment.org/downloads/HealthReport\\_CAprogram\\_Final\\_edit.pdf](http://pacificenvironment.org/downloads/HealthReport_CAprogram_Final_edit.pdf)
- 9 The neighborhood is burdened with air pollution from a bus garage, a rail yard, a freight railroad that carries oil trains, the Roosevelt Expressway, and other sources. It is one of the poorest sections of the city, and many residents suffer from asthma. The Philadelphia Health Management Corporation's [Community Health Database](http://chddb.phmc.org/) estimates that in 2012, 31% of children in the 19140 zip code had been diagnosed with asthma. That rate is much higher than the estimate rate for children in the city as a whole (23.6%) or the Southeastern PA region (18%).  
<http://chddb.phmc.org/>
- 10 SEPTA's Request for Proposal for this plant  
<http://www.septa.org/business/bid/100k/detail/RFP%2014-297-JFK.html>
- 11 SEPTA's on track with many #SEPTAinable projects, such as regenerative braking, wayside storage batteries, electric buses, and exploring microgrids, which makes us question this project even more. <http://mobile.philly.com/beta?wss=/philly/business/energy&id=366118381>
- 12 This natural gas power plant may be a response to political pressure from the state government, and not a response to particular operational problems that SEPTA faces. [http://articles.philly.com/2012-06-11/business/32157052\\_1\\_cng-septa-officials-natural-gas](http://articles.philly.com/2012-06-11/business/32157052_1_cng-septa-officials-natural-gas)