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Monitor and learn about air pollution in your community
EHP seeks applicants for “HealthWatch” Program

NEW YORK STATE, March 23, 2026 – With at least 19 oil and gas facilities in development and Governor Hochul considering a significant delay in meeting emissions deadlines, air quality is a growing concern for New York. In response, the [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is actively recruiting individuals and organizations interested in monitoring their air quality and learning about protective measures to reduce health risks associated with existing or proposed oil and gas facilities in New York state, such as gas power plants, compressor stations, and gas-powered data centers.

“HealthWatch helps communities make everyday decisions like whether or not air quality is good enough for a walk outside, as well as bigger questions about how air pollution from a facility may be impacting community health over time,” explains **Talor Musil**, Field Manager for the Environmental Health Project. “Without local air monitoring, it is difficult to answer these questions with accuracy.”

The [Environmental HealthWatch Model](#) (HealthWatch) helps communities better understand the local health impacts from gas facilities. Through analysis of air quality data and local health risk factors, HealthWatch can equip communities with information they need to better protect their health. Over one year of air quality monitoring, participating communities learn how to reduce their exposure to harmful pollution and to effectively advocate for health protections by engaging elected officials, regulators, and site operators.

Sarra Bridges, EHP’s Northeast Project Coordinator, says, “We are eager to provide tools and resources that help communities understand their local air quality, the impacts oil and gas infrastructure may have on air quality, and actions these community members can take to protect their health. We tailor our support to each community we work with because we want our tools and programs to be responsive to the local context and help our community collaborators meet their unique goals.”

Communities participating in HealthWatch must have an existing or proposed oil or gas-related infrastructure in or near the community, with priority given to gas infrastructure. Participants are

asked to identify households, businesses, and/or public spaces to host air quality monitors within two miles of the site of concern. EHP has successfully conducted multiple rounds of HealthWatch in New York and Pennsylvania since 2020, providing interactive tools, expert analysis, and communications support to such communities.

Volunteer roles for HealthWatch include a community liaison, a technical liaison, and a community-based organization, each of whom will contribute approximately 40 hours from July 2026 to December 2027. The community liaison will coordinate with monitor site hosts and share news about the HealthWatch program with the community. The technical liaison will set up and maintain air quality monitors and share analysis findings with the community. The community-based organization (501(c)3 preferred) will coordinate volunteers and promote the program.

Community members in New York State who are interested in this issue and able to volunteer time throughout the project, which spans approximately 18 months with preparation, monitoring, conclusions, and communications support, should submit an application before **April 17, 2026**. Fill out this quick, [5-question eligibility form](#) to see if HealthWatch would be a good fit for your community.

New York State communities will be given priority, but communities in states bordering NYS with interstate gas infrastructure (such as pipelines and compressor stations) are welcome to apply.

For more information on HealthWatch or if you are unsure about whether your community is eligible, contact Talor Musil, EHP Field Manager, at 412-866-4525 or tmusil@environmentalhealthproject.org.

About the Environmental Health Project

The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public health organization that defends public health in the face of shale gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance while engaging diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, policy makers, and others.

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