

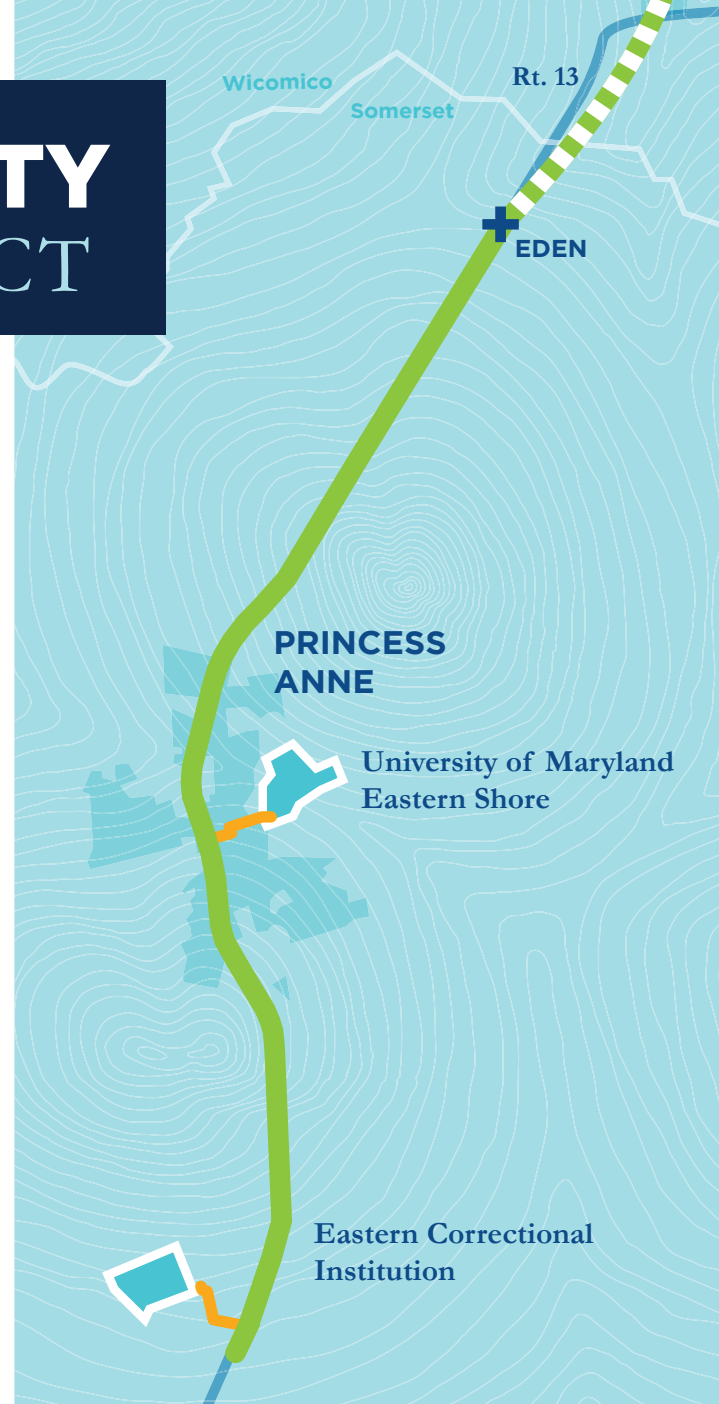
# SOMERSET COUNTY EXPANSION PROJECT

## Supporting Environmentally Conscious Economic Growth

The Somerset County Expansion Project will extend natural gas service to the Eastern Correctional Institution (ECI), a medium-security facility for men, and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), a historically Black university with an enrollment of more than 4,100. This will improve each facility's environmental profile while offering significant economic benefits to the area, which historically has faced economic challenges.

Residents and businesses along the line will also have the choice to use less expensive and environmentally beneficial natural gas service.

Chesapeake Utilities and Eastern Shore Natural Gas Company are responsible for developing the Somerset County Expansion Project. These local companies have been safely delivering natural gas to customers on the Delmarva Peninsula for 160+ and 60+ years, respectively, and are invested in the best outcome for the communities they serve.



## Delivering Natural Gas to Somerset County



Planning  
began



Construction  
started



Service expected  
to ECI and UMES



Renewable natural gas  
injected into the  
distribution system

# Natural gas is an environmentally friendly choice.

Most homes and businesses in Somerset County currently use propane gas, fuel oil and wood as heating fuel sources. The Somerset County Expansion Project will make natural gas available, providing a cleaner, less expensive alternative and improving the county's environmental profile.



**ECI** will reduce its site CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 111 million pounds/year or **65%.**

**UMES** will reduce its site CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 5 million pounds/year or **38%.**



Together, this is equivalent to **REMOVING MORE THAN 11,000 CARS** from the road.



By converting from wood to natural gas, **ECI** will reduce the particulate matter (such as dust, dirt and soot) that it emits by **99.5%.**

This project will facilitate the delivery of renewable natural gas (RNG) produced on the Eastern Shore into the natural gas distribution system. RNG is pipeline-quality, carbon-neutral gas that is interchangeable with conventional natural gas and produced by processing organic matter such as manure, food or yard waste, animal- or plant-based material and even paper, cardboard, wood and wood chips.

## DID YOU KNOW?



Ocean City, Maryland, completed its conversion from propane gas to natural gas in 2020. This reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to the equivalent of removing **600 CARS** from the road.

## DID YOU KNOW?



**RNG** is a community-oriented solution for organic waste and surface water pollution challenges that also provides clean energy.

# Natural gas fuels economic growth.

The introduction of natural gas to Somerset County will provide significant economic benefits to the lower Eastern Shore. It will support:

- **MORE THAN 1,300 CONSTRUCTION JOBS** over the next decade.
- **MORE THAN \$7 MILLION IN NEW WAGES** as a result of lower energy costs.<sup>1</sup>

Residents and businesses can also save money by switching to natural gas.

- The residential price of natural gas is **70% CHEAPER** than the residential price of electricity.<sup>2</sup>
- Commercial and industrial customers who convert from heating oil to natural gas, on average, save more than **\$12,000 ANNUALLY.**<sup>3</sup>

It is important that residents and businesses in Somerset County have as many energy choices as possible to improve their quality of life.

## DID YOU KNOW?



### SOMERSET COUNTY

is one of three Maryland counties without access to natural gas.

More information about the Somerset County Expansion Project is available at **SOMERSETNATURALGAS.COM.**

Chesapeake Utilities is not, nor has it ever been, affiliated with Chesapeake Energy Corporation, an oil and natural gas exploration company headquartered in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

<sup>1,3</sup> Towson University Regional Economic Studies Institute, <https://www.towson.edu/campus/partnerships-research/economic-studies/documents/natural-gas-economic-analysis.pdf>  
<sup>2</sup> American Gas Association, [https://www.aga.org/globalassets/md-maryland-fact-sheet\\_5.6-20-final.pdf](https://www.aga.org/globalassets/md-maryland-fact-sheet_5.6-20-final.pdf)