

PRESS RELEASE

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A pipeline heated with gas. In Italy. In 2023.

The company managing the Italian section of the transalpine oil pipeline (SIOT) has been authorized to build four methane power plants to heat oil and accelerate its transport in the pipeline. Citizens and associations are mobilizing to bring two appeals to the regional administrative court.

The Italian Company for the Transalpine Oil Pipeline (SIOT), manager of the Italian section of one of the largest European pipelines, has proposed 4 methane power plant projects to supply the pumping stations along this pipeline.

Their goal?

To heat the oil, make it more fluid and transport it more easily, quickly and in greater volume to refineries in Austria and Germany, along the same model as the [highly contested "EACOP" heated pipeline project in Africa](#).

The problem?

Until now, the pipeline's pumping stations have been connected to the electrical grid, with more than 30% of the energy coming from renewable sources. However, they would now be powered solely by the combustion of methane gas, a fossil source. The combustion of methane gas generates greenhouse gases (CO₂) responsible for climate change but also fine particles (CO and SO_x) responsible for air pollution.

The response ?

In response and supported by citizens, both Legambiente and Movimento Difesa Cittadino associations brought **two appeals to the Regional Administrative Court** to demonstrate the **inconsistency** of these projects and **to stop them**.

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