



# Denbury CO2 Pipelines and Planned Expansions

## Denbury CO2 Infrastructure

- Existing Pipelines
- - - Proposed Pipelines
- ⚠ Major CO2 Pipeline Leaks, 2010 - Present
- ★ Sattartia, MS



Data: Denbury CCUS Business Outlook, 2023  
 PHMSA Pipeline Safety Flagged Incidents, release volume figures represent unintentional and subsequent intentional releases from flagged incidents, 2023  
 US Census TIGER/Line Shapefiles, 2023

# Not Safe for Our Communities: Denbury's CO2 Pipelines

A pipeline company called Denbury currently has plans to build hundreds of miles of carbon dioxide (CO2) pipelines across Louisiana. Unfortunately for us, Denbury has a bad safety record in its past. Read below for more information about why Denbury's pipelines are risky for our communities and why CO2 pipelines are dangerous in general.

## 1. Denbury has a history of carbon dioxide leaks.

The company has reported **7 major leaks** since 2010: 1 disaster and 6 "close calls." This boils down to one accident every other year (2010 -2022) from Port Arthur, Texas to the Mississippi Delta.<sup>1</sup> These pipeline failures have hit close to home in Louisiana; Denbury just had a large CO2 leak in White Castle, Louisiana in 2022.

## 2. Carbon dioxide leaks are incredibly dangerous.

Carbon dioxide is a very dangerous substance. CO2 is an **asphyxiant**, inhaling large amounts of it can cause suffocation or death. Carbon dioxide is also an **intoxicant**, like alcohol—breathing high concentrations can lead to confusion. This makes it harder to evacuate if a CO2 pipeline burst near you. Finally, carbon dioxide **stalls engines**, which means that personal cars and ambulances might not work in the event of a CO2 pipeline emergency. These are just a few reasons why carbon dioxide pipelines are not safe for communities.

## 3. Denbury's pipeline failures have sickened people.

In 2020, one of Denbury's carbon dioxide pipelines ruptured near a small town called Satartia, Mississippi. Due to the large amount of carbon dioxide released into the air, **over 300 people** had to evacuate their homes, and **nearly 50 people** sought medical treatment at nearby hospitals. To this day, some residents report lasting brain and lung problems. It's important to note that the pipeline in Satartia burst because rain caused the soil under the pipeline to shift. Louisiana has lots of rain, and CO2 pipelines could face similar problems here.

## 4. The Denbury Green Pipeline has not been operated at full capacity.

According to the University of Houston, Denbury is only operating at one-third of its capacity. Denbury is seeking to increase the flow of CO2 in its Green Pipeline, in order to move massive amounts (13 MT) of carbon dioxide through Louisiana each year. At only one-third of its operating capacity, Denbury is already having problems with CO2 leaks. Why should Denbury expand and put Louisianans at risk if they are failing at their current size?

## 5. The steel for pipelines is not being manufactured well enough to handle the corrosion from CO2.

Carbon dioxide pipelines currently face a high risk of steel corrosion failures. The many kinds of unknown impurities proposed, and how those different unknown impurities will mix in a pipeline to affect corrosion, has not been adequately studied. There is a major engineering gap. Many of the engineering challenges to securing a CO2 pipeline remain unknown. Carbon dioxide pipelines will have many unknown problems at scale. Louisiana communities shouldn't be the guinea pigs for this new and dangerous technology.

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1 National Response Center. NRC.USCG.MIL via skytruth.org