

## No pipeline? No problem.







Photos from a recent project in Poughkeepsie

## Central Hudson's non-pipeline alternative projects reduce costs while keeping customers comfortable

ince 2019, Central Hudson has been implementing non-pipeline alternative (NPA) projects, offering a cost-effective solution to avoid expensive upgrades to the natural gas system. These projects focus on electrifying buildings in areas where it is more efficient to replace aging gas infrastructure with electric alternatives. Typically, gas-powered heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, along with kitchen appliances and hot water heaters, are replaced with electric models.

Recently, Central Hudson collaborated with local contractor, Sigma Tremblay, to complete a project in Poughkeepsie. In one of the converted homes, a single vent above the gas furnace, which previously heated the entire house, was replaced with a combination of mini-split air-source heat pumps downstairs and a new ducted system upstairs. These upgraded units provide both heating and cooling, eliminating the need for

less-efficient window air conditioners. Additionally, an energy-efficient clothes dryer and heat pump water heater were installed.

These upgrades are provided free of charge to residents, and participation in the NPA program is voluntary. However, for the project to move forward, all customers along the affected section of the gas line must willingly opt into the program.

In addition to the appliance upgrades, Central Hudson facilitated weatherization through NYSERDA's Empower+ Program, providing the resident with \$10,000 worth of insulation measures for the attic and basement. EmPower+ helps low- and moderate-income households save energy and money toward energy improvements made to their primary residence.

These upgrades are by invitation only.

