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**For Immediate Release**

**Huttonsville natural gas pipeline project to begin in mid-April**

Through an effort to maximize efficiencies in state government, the WV Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety applied for and received funding through the State Energy Program/American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 for a fuel-switching project at Huttonsville Correctional Center.

The Randolph County project will be conducted by Mountaineer Gas and will provide an upgrade of the existing natural gas distribution system in the area roughly 8 miles to the correctional facility at an estimated cost of \$2.1 million.

Currently Huttonsville Correctional Center uses oil and propane as its heating fuel source. Once the fuel-switching project to natural gas is completed, the facility is estimated to realize an annual savings of more than \$400,000 in heating fuel costs.

The gas line project is slated to begin in mid-April and some minor inconveniences and traffic delays are possible.

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