

Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Film Profiles (videos)

The Pipe

Ó Domhnaill, Risteard. *The Pipe*. Dublin: Underground Film Warehouse Studios, 2010. HD, 80 min. https://youtu.be/VhZlbe_JdhI.

A compelling documentary film four years in the making, *The Pipe* tells the story of the small Rossport community which has taken on the might of Shell Oil and the Irish State. The discovery of gas off this remote coastal village has led to the most dramatic clash of cultures in modern Ireland. The rights of farmers over their fields, and of fishermen to their fishing grounds, has come in direct conflict with one of the world's most powerful oil companies. When the citizens look to their State to protect their rights, they find that the government has put Shell's right to lay a pipeline over their own. Already 5 locals have spent 94 days in jail rather than let the proposed Shell pipeline cross their lands. This once tranquil area is engulfed in turmoil, as huge numbers of police drafted in. Normal policing has broken down following baton charges, surveillance, arrests, and a hunger strike by a local schoolteacher. With the imminent arrival of the world's largest pipelaying vessel, the *Solitaire*, a massive security operation is put into action by the State to ensure that the pipe is laid without interference. When all hope seems lost, events take a dramatic turn. Following the personal experience of three main characters at the height of local tension, *The Pipe* is a story of a community tragically divided, and the prospect of a pipeline that can bring economic prosperity or destroy of a way of life shared for generations. (Source: [Irish Film Board](#))

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This film is available at the [Rachel Carson Center Library](#) (RCC, 4th floor, Leopoldstrasse 11a, 80802 Munich) for on-site viewing only. For more information, please contact library@rcc.lmu.de.

[About the Environmental Film Profiles collection](#)

Further readings:

- Engelder, Terry, et al. "Natural Gas: Should Fracking Stop?" *Nature* 477 (2011): 271–5.
- Leonard, Liam. "[Environmentalism in Ireland: Ecological Modernisation versus Populist Rural Sentiment.](#)" *Environmental Values* 16, no. 4 (2007): 463–83. doi:10.3197/096327107X243240.

- Powers, Emily C. "Fracking and Federalism: Support for an Adaptive Approach That Avoids the Tragedy of the Regulatory Commons." *Journal of Law & Policy* 19, no. 2 (2011): 913-33.

Related links:

- Outlook Filmsales
<http://www.outlookfilms.com/>
- Wiebo's War (Film Profile)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/wiebos-war>
- Groundswell Rising (Film Profile)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/groundswell-rising>
- Garth Lenz on "The True Cost of Oil" (Environmental TED Talk)
<https://www.environmentandsociety.org/mml/lenz-garth-true-cost-oil>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://directory.irishfilmboard.ie/films/841-the-pipe>
- <http://www.carsoncenter.uni-muenchen.de/index.html>
- <https://www.environmentandsociety.org/multimedia/collection/environmental-films-project>