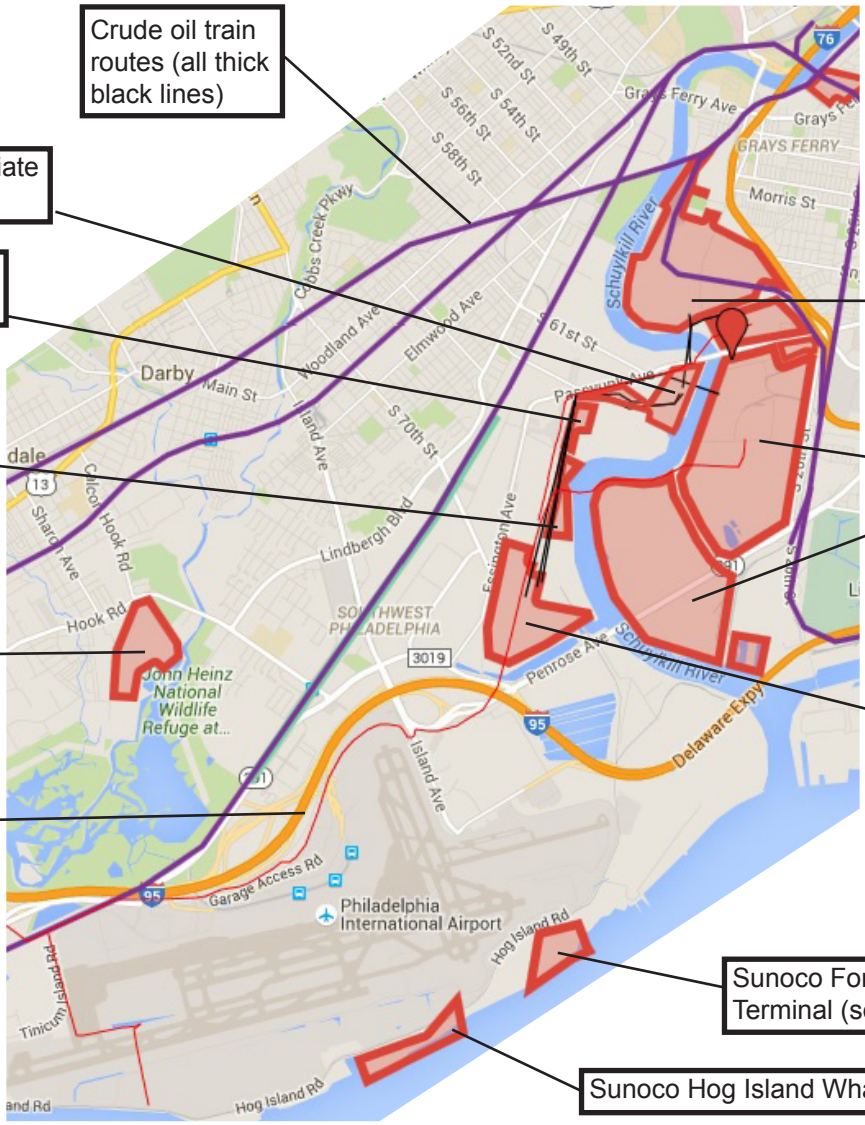
Petrochemical Infrastructure of the Lower Southwest District

The Lower Southwest district of Philadelphia is already home to a large portion of the city's oil and gas infrastructure. Many of the crude oil trains that pass through the Philadelphia area on their way to or from various refineries and oil terminals pass through the Lower Southwest district, often through highly populated residential areas. These industries produce air and water pollution. Partly due to this air pollution, Lower Southwest has asthma rates even higher than the Philadelphia average, which is already 2-3x the national average. Because much of the area was once wetlands, 45 percent of the Lower Southwest sits in the 100-year floodplain. Climate change is already leading to increased flooding in the area. For example, Cobbs Creek saw seven "10-year floods" between 2009 and 2012.

More oil and gas industry is proposed for Philadelphia as part of a push to turn the region into "the next Houston," and much of that would go on or near the Philadelphia Energy Solutions refining complex just across the river from the Lower Southwest or just southwest of the Lower Southwest in Marcus Hook. The Lower Southwest Master Plan calls for an "Energy Corridor" for these industries.



Clean Air Council is researching the environmental and public health impacts of existing and proposed oil and gas infrastructure and transportation in Philadelphia and wants to hear from you! For a more detailed map, go to **bit.ly/energyhubmap**. For more information or to get involved, email Coryn Wolk at cwolk@cleanair.org or call (215) 567-4004 x107.