

August 28, 2014

Dear Friends of Nelson County,

You are receiving this letter as a property owner in Nelson County. We want to make sure everyone is informed about the natural gas pipeline Dominion is proposing to come through our rivers, our farmland and our mountains. Nelson County residents would not be receiving any gas from the proposed pipeline but we would receive all the disruption of construction, pipeline maintenance and ongoing concerns about leaks and explosions.

Many of us attended the Board of Supervisor's meeting with Dominion on August 12. We were thrilled to see nearly 600 energetic, positive, people there, wearing blue and "speaking" with one voice: No Pipeline!

We also send a heartfelt thank you to our Board of Supervisors, who passed the resolution calling for the meeting and asked Dominion to stop surveying until after the meeting. While the meeting did not yield as much information as we had hoped, it did provide a positive opportunity to demonstrate our community's united opposition to this pipeline.

So, what do we know now?

We know that our economy, our water, our safety, and our property rights are threatened by the Southeast Reliability pipeline. We know that the proposed pipeline is likely to lower our property values (and tax base), shut down businesses during construction, and drain our creeks.

We know that Dominion has never built a pipeline this big anywhere, and that pipelines of this size and pressure have never been built by anyone in mountainous terrain like ours. We know, in fact, that there are very few pipelines of both the proposed size and pressure in operation currently anywhere. Safety and property value information pertaining to other pipelines cannot be used to reassure us about this pipeline.

Dominion sent out letters requesting to survey to a whole host of new landowners in the last few weeks. We would love your help in spreading the word about Friends of Nelson and Free Nelson to new folks on the route. If you are a landowner who has received a letter from Dominion and has not contacted Friends of Nelson previously, we would ask that you do so by calling us (540-456-6509) or e-mailing us ([friendsofnelson@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnelson@gmail.com)) immediately. This will help us to protect your property rights and to share information regarding the pipeline as quickly as possible.

Would you be willing to look at the maps (posted on the Friends of Nelson webpage) and talk to your neighbors and friends who might be affected? Similarly, would you be willing to speak to church or other community groups that you belong to or provide information for their newsletters about the pipeline and/or Friends of Nelson? If you know of community groups that would like Friends of Nelson to provide a presentation on the pipeline, please let us know that as well by sending a message to our e-mail address: [friendsofnelson@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofnelson@gmail.com). If you would like to

volunteer to respond to property owners when surveyors are on their property, please send an email to Free Nelson at [freenelson@gmx.com](mailto:freenelson@gmx.com) or give us a call at (434) 465-4946.

We strongly encourage everyone to continue to refuse to allow surveying. Dominion is clearly trying to use a divide and conquer strategy to encourage people to allow surveying. However, they have said repeatedly that they will not survey if you have refused until you either agree or they get a court order. As of August 12, 75% of landowners in Nelson have refused permission to survey! If Dominion cannot survey most of the route, they will not be able to meet their regulatory requirement to choose the route with the least environmental impact (to include historical, cultural, and socio-economic factors). If enough people refuse to survey, Dominion will eventually have to force us. This will cost them time, money, and good public will. Regarding Dominion's oft repeated scare tactic that you need to allow them to survey in order to make sure they avoid your family cemetery or other sensitive areas of your property, you can always allow them to survey after they pre-file and before the final Environmental Impact Statement is completed. If you want to deny permission to survey, even if you have already given permission, see our information for landowners posted on the Friends of Nelson webpage ([www.friendsofnelson.com](http://www.friendsofnelson.com)). While we encourage everyone to deny permission, we also acknowledge and respect that this is a very personal choice and we always encourage everyone to seek their own legal counsel. We cannot provide legal advice.

Friends of Nelson can now accept tax deductible donations. Checks should be made out to "Virginia Organizing" with "Friends of Nelson" annotated in the "memo" block of the check. All donations minus a five percent handling fee (pays for administrative costs such as tax filing and liability insurance) will go directly to Friends of Nelson. Checks can be mailed to Friends of Nelson, P.O. Box 33, Nellysford, VA 22958. Donations will be used to cover legal and administrative cost incurred in our efforts to oppose the pipeline in Nelson County.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you and for your continued support!

Friends of Nelson

Free Nelson

Pipeline Education Group