

Friends of Nelson Press Release, November 12, 2014

3 of every 4 Nelson Landowners Refuse Access For Dominion Pipeline Surveys

76% of Nelson County residents directly impacted by Dominion Transmission's Atlantic Coast Pipeline have refused access to their properties for surveys, according to statistics compiled by Friends of Nelson.

Just as Dominion has taken steps to intimidate landowners into changing their minds, Friends of Nelson has completed an initial survey of 167 landowners in the path of the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline. 127 landowners have responded as having officially denied access to Dominion surveyors.

"This unified response is unprecedented," said Joanna Salidis of Friends of Nelson. "A supermajority of Nelson County residents are standing up against Dominion and saying in one voice 'No, not here.'"

As of Nov 10, 2014, 76% of the landowners along the current study-corridor for the Dominion ACP Pipeline within Nelson County have told Friends of Nelson they have denied Dominion access to their properties to survey.

The statute upon which Dominion is basing its threats of legal action against residents is currently under review in federal court to determine its constitutionality. "Friends of Nelson asserts that surveying without landowner's permission is indeed criminal trespass," said Salidis. "Landowners are doing nothing wrong or improper in continuing to answer Dominion's request for survey with an emphatic 'No.'"

"The federal government has not determined that this pipeline is in the public interest and, therefore landowners should not be subject to Dominion's personal harassment and threats of eminent domain."

Public meetings for Nelson County residents opposing the pipeline are scheduled for Sunday, November 16th at Nelson County Public Library and Sunday, November 23rd at Rockfish Valley Community Center. Both meetings are at 7pm.

For more information, contact Friends of Nelson at 434-260-3298.