

1. Good evening. My name is Larry Herring. I live in the Horizons Village subdivision, which is in the pathway of the proposed [Appalachian Trail South, Alternate Pipeline Route](#).
2. Horizons Village includes **400 acres of protected forests and wetlands** in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and within the [proclamation boundary](#) of the George Washington National Forest.
3. We have 65 acres of **steep mountain common land** above our private lots and another 35 acres of **grassy meadow common land**, along the Rockfish River, below our private lots. These common lands are subject to a conservation easement forever.
4. Our 40 private **lots lie between** these protected common lands.
5. We have clear mountain **springs, streams, and wetlands**, which flow into the Rockfish River.
6. We are considered an **eco-village** because of our **ecological, covenant restrictions that run with the land**.
7. These **restrictions** are actually **just a common-sense approach** to being gentle to our environment and **coexisting with the wildlife** around us.
 - We minimize **clearing of the forests** as we build our homes
 - We do not **endanger or kill the wildlife**
 - We maintain **unobstructed, natural wildlife corridors** between our lots and along our waterways and wetlands
 - We **do not use herbicides, pesticides or any toxic chemicals** that might harm wildlife or downstream ecosystems of the Rockfish River, James River and Chesapeake Bay
8. **Bears, bobcats, coyotes**, deer, fox, snakes, salamanders, frogs, **turkeys, hawks**, bats, owls **thrive in our community and frequent** our properties.
9. The proposed [Alternate Pipeline Route](#)
 - **bisects our forested mountain common land**,
 - cutting a **125 swath** down the mountain -- **picture a 6-lane highway**
 - through **7 private lots**,
 - across **five streams**, and
 - through a **forested wetland**.
10. This wide **path of destruction**
 - **fragments** our forest,
 - **disrupts** our natural waterways and wetlands and
 - **threatens the survival of the wildlife** that we have worked so hard to protect. The wildlife all along this section of the Blue Ridge Mountains, in Nelson County, **already struggle for survival**.
11. **We bought** property in Horizons Village **because of this deep commitment** to the protection of our land and our environment. This is **not negotiable** -- it is the **whole purpose and identity** of our community. The Atlantic Coast Pipeline **threatens to destroy all that**, and **offers no benefit whatsoever** to us here in Nelson County or Virginia.

How then, can this be seen to be in the public's best interest?

THANK YOU