

May 21, 2015

TO: Governor Terry McAuliffe
CC: Secretary of Natural Resources, Molly Ward
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Governor McAuliffe:

I am writing to request that you direct the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to take the necessary steps to provide unrestricted public access to critical environmental information concerning the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP).

Specifically, I am requesting that the DEQ obtain site-specific erosion and sediment control and stormwater management plans prior to issuing any approvals or accepting any permit submissions for the ACP. I also request that the DEQ make these plans available to local governments and the public.

My understanding, following a meeting of the Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition with DEQ officials, is that the DEQ has the authority to require site-specific plans for the ACP project, but that it will not do so due to a lack of staff resources to review such plans. Dominion spokesman, Jim Norvelle, has also stated that the DEQ will not require submission of these plans. The result is that state and local government officials and the public will not have the opportunity to review these plans for regulatory compliance prior to project authorization and construction.

Please remember your promise that the ACP will be the most environmentally responsible pipeline project in the history of the United States. This is a promise that will not be fulfilled if the environmental review process is conducted without complete transparency and the involvement of all Virginia stakeholders. This is a promise that will not be fulfilled if we simply leave everything to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and Dominion.

There can be no rationale for denying Virginia citizens and local governments timely access to critical environmental information related to compliance with Virginia laws and regulations.

Currently, Virginia's DEQ, local governments, and citizens have access to site-specific erosion and sediment control and stormwater management plans for other construction projects. Why not for the ACP?

Given the unprecedented scale of the proposed ACP, given the environmental risks involved, and given your promise to the citizens of the commonwealth, there is no reason to exempt the ACP from meaningful public oversight.

I look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____
