

July 13, 2015

Governor Terry McAuliffe
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Governor McAuliffe:

It is with grave concern that 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) and the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP).

We face proposals for construction of at least three 42-inch pipelines for moving shale gas across the mountains from West Virginia to Virginia and the Southeast. These pipelines will be the largest ever built in this region.

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 and MVP projects, 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.

It is therefore up to the concerned public and local government officials to engage directly in the process. If we want to protect our water resources, we cannot rely on the DEQ, and we certainly cannot leave it to the pipeline companies. A critical first step is to obtain and review the all-important site-specific E&SC plans for regulatory compliance. The laws and regulations are in place; we must make them work.

Furthermore, 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 and the MVP?

Given the unprecedented scale of both the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline, given the environmental risks involved, and given your promise to the citizens of the Commonwealth, there is no reason to exempt the ACP or the MVP from meaningful public oversight.

I look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

July 13, 2015

David Paylor, Director
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Paylor:

It is with grave concern that 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) and the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP).

We face proposals for construction of at least three 42-inch pipelines for moving shale gas across the mountains from West Virginia to Virginia and the Southeast. These pipelines will be the largest ever built in this region.

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 and MVP projects, 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.

It is therefore up to the concerned public and local government officials to engage directly in the process. If we want to protect our water resources, we cannot rely on the DEQ, and we certainly cannot leave it to the pipeline companies. A critical first step is to obtain and review the all-important site-specific E&SC plans for regulatory compliance. The laws and regulations are in place; we must make them work.

Furthermore, 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 and the MVP?

Given the unprecedented scale of both the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline, given the environmental risks involved, and given your promise to the citizens of the Commonwealth, there is no reason to exempt the ACP or the MVP from meaningful public oversight.

I look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

July 13, 2015

Molly Ward, Secretary of Natural Resources
1111 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Secretary Ward:

It is with grave concern that 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) and the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP).

We face proposals for construction of at least three 42-inch pipelines for moving shale gas across the mountains from West Virginia to Virginia and the Southeast. These pipelines will be the largest ever built in this region.

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 and MVP projects, 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.

It is therefore up to the concerned public and local government officials to engage directly in the process. If we want to protect our water resources, we cannot rely on the DEQ, and we certainly cannot leave it to the pipeline companies. A critical first step is to obtain and review the all-important site-specific E&SC plans for regulatory compliance. The laws and regulations are in place; we must make them work.

Furthermore, 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 and the MVP?

Given the unprecedented scale of both the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline, given the environmental risks involved, and given your promise to the citizens of the Commonwealth, there is no reason to exempt the ACP or the MVP from meaningful public oversight.

I look forward to your positive response.

Sincerely,

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____
