

FERC: Please conduct a PEIS for Virginia and West Virginia Pipelines

Dear Chairman Bay and Secretary Bose:

The diverse array of organizations listed below urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to conduct a single, comprehensive regional review of all four interstate natural gas pipeline projects currently proposed for the central Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountain region of Virginia and West Virginia—the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, the Mountain Valley Pipeline, the Appalachian Connector Pipeline, and the WB Express Project. This Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) must be a single, comprehensive regional review of the direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts of pipeline development in this region.

Our region is facing an unprecedented level of natural gas infrastructure development. Although there are currently 3,000 miles of natural gas lines in Virginia alone, there are almost no 42-inch lines in the state. However, there are now three such lines, each capable of carrying up to two billion cubic feet a day, being proposed in close proximity to one another, and a fourth existing 36-inch line that is in the planning stages for an upgrade to add additional capacity, each of which requires at least one new compressor station.

FERC should proceed, not with a separate EIS for each proposed pipeline, but with a PEIS that considers all of the cumulative impacts that will arise from these four proposed projects and evaluate all reasonable, less damaging alternatives.

Sincerely,

350 Central Virginia

Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance

Appalachian Mountain Advocates

Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Augusta Alliance

Blue Ridge Land Conservancy

Chesapeake Climate Action Network

Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition

Environment Virginia

Friends of Augusta

Friends of Buckingham

Friends of Nelson

Friends of the GW Forest Against Fracking

Friends of Wintergreen, Inc.

Preserve Franklin

Preserve Giles

Preserve Greenbrier County

Preserve Monroe

Preserve Montgomery County

Roanoke Appalachian Trail Club

Roanoke Group, Sierra Club

Roanoke Valley Cool Cities Coalition

Sierra Club Virginia Chapter

Southern Environmental Law Center

Summers County Residents Against the Pipeline

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

Virginia Organizing

Virginia Student Environmental Coalition

Wild Virginia

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