



ABRA Update #45 – September 9, 2015

FERC Staff Comments on ACP Draft Plan

The staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has responded to the July 27 filing by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline on a series of draft plans required by the agency on: 1) Karst Terrain Assessment, Construction, Monitoring and Mitigation; Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures; Blasting ; Winter Construction; and Invasive Plant Species Management. The comments make 38 separate requests for further information or clarifications from ACP, nearly half of which concern the draft plan on Invasive Plant Species Management. The September 3 FERC letter, written to Dominion Transmission Inc. as the management agent for the ACP, is available on the ABRA website at http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/FERC_Comments-ACP_Plan-Karst_Terrain_Assessment_Construction_Monitoring_Mitigation_9-4-15.pdf.

Virginia DCR Makes Recommendations on Pipeline Alternatives

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) wrote FERC on September 4 to comment upon and make recommendations regarding the potential alignment of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline as it could relate to the recreational and environmental programs it administers in the state. Most of the DCR comments relate to proposed ACP alternatives in the portion of the route. The DCR letter is available at http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/VA_DCR_comments-ACP_9-4-15.pdf.

In the News:

Local/Atlantic Coast Pipeline

Williams' Transco Completes Virginia Southside Expansion

- Marketwatch – 9/1/15

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/williams-transco-completes-virginia-southside-expansion-2015-09-01>
Dominion's new Brunswick power plant (under construction) now has gas supply...doesn't need ACP's gas

Related: http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Southside_VA_Expansion_20150908.pdf

Related: <http://co.williams.com/expansionprojects/virginia-southside-expansion-2/>

Pipeline Environmental Infractions on Upswing

- The Recorder – 9/3/15

http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Pipeline_Environmental_Infractions_on_Upswing-Recorder_9-3-15.pdf

Consistent violation of Erosion and Sediment Control regulations by ACP construction contractor worries residents and pipeline opponents

Dominion Power's confusing riders and what they mean for Virginia

- Washington Post – 9/2/15

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/all-opinions-are-local/wp/2015/09/02/dominion-powers-confusing-riders-and-what-they-mean-for-virginia/>

Dominion's political influence makes deception all too easy...and costly for rate payers

Regional/Mountain Valley Pipeline, other

Pipeline & Property Rights: Where do the Senate candidates stand?

- Roanoke Times (blog) – 9/4/15

http://www.roanoke.com/news/columns_and_blogs/blogs/blue_ridge_caucus/pipeline-property-rights-where-do-the-senate-candidates-stand/article_a438453e-52fc-11e5-af52-abfa3407ebb5.html

Who's for it. Who's against it. Who won't raise a hand...

DuVal: Natural gas infrastructure is critical to economic growth

- Roanoke Times – 9/6/15

http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/commentary/duval-natural-gas-infrastructure-is-critical-to-economic-growth/article_61f358e6-8d64-53a8-bcfa-604cefc5b6cc.html

Usual focus on supposed jobs, tax revenue and (unplanned) local access to cheap gas...which may not last

Big Picture:

Kenneth Klemow: Allow science to guide Pennsylvania's development of natural gas pipelines

- Times Leader – 9/2/15

<http://timesleader.com/opinion/columns/380055/kenneth-klemow-allow-science-to-guide-pennsylvanias-development-of-natural-gas-pipelines>

Science can't solve all problems related to pipeline expansion...but should be used to solve those that it can!

Excellerate halts US LNG export project

- Argus – 9/2/15

<http://www.argusmedia.com/News/Article?id=1097475>

Global market undermining economics of LNG export

Shale gas production in retreat amid low prices, shortage of pipelines

- TribLive – 9/6/15

<http://triblive.com/business/headlines/9009333-74/gas-production-shale#axzz3lAwTgogy>

Drillers and producers scaling back amid harsh market and financial environment

Fasten Your Seatbelt - Natural Gas Is Ready To Blast Off

- Seeking Alpha – 9/4/15

<http://seekingalpha.com/article/3490636-fasten-your-seatbelt-natural-gas-is-ready-to-blast-off>

Takeaway...drilling curtailment, reduced availability of cheap debt, high well decline rates = less gas -> higher prices -> less likelihood of profit from LNG export & higher power production costs for rate payers.