

Arthur W. Dodds, Jr.

President of the Laurel Mountain Preservation Association

Notes for FERC Meeting, Marsh 22, 2015

Elkins High School, WV

Talking Points

The number of miles of transmission pipelines in the 48 United States, established by the US Department of Transportation, as of January 2015, is 2.5 million miles with an estimate of 6 million miles of end user distribution lines.

The proponents of the pipeline do not talk about the environmental problems associated with the pipeline.

The opponents of the pipeline talk about the environmental problems.

The amount of water needed to hydrostatically test the pipeline is estimated at 300 million gallons of water. This is enough water to hydraulically fracture about 100 horizontal gas wells. (note: I may have said 1,000) This water is lost, but is not the hazardous waste that needs to be disposed of when coming from the horizontal gas wells.

At present, there are 4 pipelines under consideration. All start near Weston, WV. One travels north, paralleling a pipeline that has been reversed to Canada. The other three travel south, paralleling each other, ending in about the same place. Note: Another presenter identified an additional pipeline traveling south, starting in PA.

The need to fill these pipelines will require a dramatic increase in horizontal gas wells and a remarkable increase in the hazardous hydraulic fracturing fluids that will need to be disposed of.

The US Geological Survey has linked earthquakes in Oklahoma with the injection of these waste hydraulic fracturing fluids.

It is a requirement of FERC to consider cumulative impacts. These pipelines cannot be considered individually, and must be evaluated on the impact of three lines when one common route, over existing Rights of Ways, would minimize the environmental impacts and concerns of the Public.

Thank you for this opportunity to present our concerns and your attention.