

Protecting the heritage, resources and economy of the Allegheny-Blue Ridge region

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ABRA Update #17– February 23, 2015

“The Path Forward,” ABRA’s March 7 Meeting, Approaches

The March 7 membership meeting of the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance, will help shape the future direction of the fight against the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline. If your organization has not yet registered attendees, please do so by Friday, February 27. A registration form accompanies this Update.

The meeting is themed “The Path Forward.” It will be held at the Staunton Public Library (2nd floor meeting room), 1 Churchville Ave., Staunton, VA Saturday, March 7, 10 am to 3 pm. Registration will begin at 9:30 am, with coffee, tea and beverages available. Lunch will be provided for a \$10 per person charge, payable by cash or check at the time of registration. Each member organization is entitled to have at least 3 attendees, but if an organization wishes to send additional people, contact Lew Freeman (lewfreeman@gmail.com or 703-298-8107).

The meeting’s agenda, a copy of which also accompanies this Update, will be framed by two discussions: “Issues and Objectives: What’s Relevant?” and “Strategies: What Will Work?”

The Issues discussion includes presentations by Greg Buppert of Southern Environmental Law Center, Ernie Reed of Wild Virginia and Friends of Nelson County, and John Roddy, a former attorney with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

The Strategies discussion will feature panelists Joe Lovett of Appalachian Mountain Advocates, Nancy Sorrells of Augusta County Alliance, and Rich Webb of Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition. Both discussions will include generous time for attendee participation.

The remainder of the meeting will be breakout work groups with assigned topics, reports from those groups and a final general session to establish action items, assignments and timetables.

In the News . . .

Federal pipeline case scheduled for hearing – News-Leader, 2-17-15

<http://www.newsleader.com/story/news/local/2015/02/17/pipeline-court-hearing-advance/23555921/>

EQT pipeline faces some opposition in West Virginia – Pittsburgh Business Times, 2-17-15

<http://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/blog/energy/2015/02/eqt-pipeline-faces-some-opposition-in-west.html>

Pipeline opponents ask Forest Service to nix surveying in national forests

– Roanoke Times, 2-18-15

http://www.roanoke.com/news/local/roanoke_county/pipeline-opponents-ask-forest-service-to-nix-surveying-in-national/article_507334bf-9922-57a5-9ca8-d8384d4c5757.html

Nelson supervisors vote against meeting with Dominion – Nelson County Times, 2-18-15
http://www.newsadvance.com/nelson_county_times/news/nelson-supervisors-vote-against-meeting-with-dominion/article_dcb630f2-b7b5-11e4-bb3f-5fa2bfa8da2d.html

Pocahontas Commission approves pipeline letters of support Pocahontas Times, 2-18-15
<http://pocahontastimes.com/commission-approves-pipeline-letters-of-support/>

Dominion to survey southern route – The Recorder, 2-19-15
[Article attached to transmittal email for Update #17](#)

Gas Pipeline Hits Resistance – Public News Service (PA), 2-19-15
<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2015-02-19/environment/gas-pipeline-hits-resistance/a44644-1>

Property rights become the focus of pipeline lawsuit – Richmond Times-Dispatch, 2-19-15
http://www.richmond.com/news/virginia/article_c32b32d9-4443-537e-ac15-3b18547d1385.html

Natural gas infrastructure needs – not what would be expected
– National Law Review, 2-19-15
<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/natural-gas-infrastructure-needs-electric-generation-not-what-would-be-expected>

Roanoke County to consider Mountain Valley Pipeline committee
– Roanoke Times, 2-21-15
http://www.roanoke.com/news/local/roanoke_county/roanoke-county-to-consider-mountain-valley-pipeline-committee/article_4db09472-5b15-59bc-a605-26851dce51c3.html

Pipeline roulette – Roanoke Times, 2-22-15
http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-pipeline-roulette/article_875de1fe-633d-5ec2-8e41-fdc228332b84.html