

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

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ABRA Update #16– February 16, 2015

Strong Show of Comments to the Monongahela, Jefferson National Forests

Excellent comments were filed last week by ABRA members and many others with the Monongahela and Jefferson National Forests regarding the applications to survey Forest Lands for, respectively, the Atlantic Coast and Mountain Valley Pipelines. Copies of comments filed by ABRA members are posted on our website, http://abralliance.org/?page_id=8. If your organization's comments are not posted, please forward them to dshaffer@abralliance.org.

Natural Gas Pipeline Video

Faye Cooper (ABRA member Cooper Conservation Advisors) has brought to our attention a video produced last June about the environmental and safety problems with natural gas pipelines. It was produced by the Gas Drilling Awareness Coalition of Luzerne County, PA (<http://www.gdacoalition.org/>). It is compelling. You can view the video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IWAEnTEaEh4>.

March 7 ABRA Meeting Registration

A reminder to send in your registration for the March 7 ABRA Membership meeting. Initial response has been strong. A registration form accompanies this Update.

In the News . . .

Halted: VT Gas Pipeline – Conservation Law Foundation, 2/10/15

<http://www.clf.org/blog/uncategorized/halted-vt-gas-pipeline/>

Lack of regulation for Dominion could leave Virginians in shock

– Roanoke Times, 2/11/15

http://www.roanoke.com/news/columns_and_blogs/columns/dan_casey/casey-lack-of-regulation-for-dominion-appalachian-electric-could-leave/article_b785c150-214c-5b4a-b01d-2b84840d6044.html

Dominion Resources hikes quarterly dividends – Zacks, 2/11/15

<http://www.zacks.com/stock/news/164090/dominion-up-on-79-dividend-hike-rise-in-payouts>

Politics, not prices, slowing natural gas pipeline development – FuelFix, 2/11/15

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2015/02/11/williams-ceo-politics-not-prices-slowing-natural-gas-pipeline-development/>

Senate passes bill sought by Dominion – Tidewater News, 2-11-15

<http://www.tidewaternews.com/2015/02/11/senate-passes-bill-sought-by-dominion/>

Protestors rally against construction of natural gas pipeline

– WDBJ7, Roanoke, 2/12/15

<http://www.wdbj7.com/video/protestors-rally-against-construction-of-natural-gas-pipeline/31240986>

Dominion's Atlantic Coast Pipeline: Lies and numbers – Augusta Free Press, 2/12/15
<http://augustafreepress.com/dominions-atlantic-coast-pipeline-lies-and-numbers/>

Opponents say pipeline study on economic impact does little to ease concerns
– Nelson County Times, 2/12/15
http://www.newsadvance.com/nelson_county_times/news/opponents-say-pipeline-study-on-economic-impact-does-little-to/article_b82e6928-b2f3-11e4-89c1-5fea6286f842.html

Petersen: Electricity: The old Dominion – Richmond Times-Dispatch, 2/12/15
http://www.richmond.com/opinion/their-opinion/guest-columnists/article_ed96ce67-aaa2-5594-836a-37802deb4a60.html

Virginia's powerless voters – Washington Post, 2/13/15
http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/virginias-powerless-voters/2015/02/13/15f8c6e8-b2fe-11e4-886b-c22184f27c35_story.html

State lawmaker's property may be on Mtn Valley Pipeline route
– Lynchburg News & Advance, 2/13/15
http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/press-pass/press-pass-state-lawmaker-s-property-may-be-on-mtn/article_044d0d08-b3b9-11e4-825c-2f647d30e3da.html

Bill a plus for Dominion customers – Daily Progress, 2/13/15
http://www.dailyprogress.com/opinion/opinion-letter-bill-a-plus-for-dominion-customers/article_5fb3129c-b2fa-11e4-bc5e-73cc3ad25f8a.html

Gas pipeline could lead to building boom – Roanoke Times, 2/14/15
http://www.roanoke.com/news/columns_and_blogs/columns/dan_casey/casey-gas-pipeline-could-lead-to-building-boom/article_a1da427c-de8e-5bca-9fcd-fbd6708cdfaa.html

Dominion donations show it's a power company in Virginia politics
– Roanoke Times, 2/14/15
http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/general_assembly/dominion-donations-show-it-s-a-power-company-in-virginia/article_f1d230ea-6664-5912-80ad-980a5808a570.html

Did this proposed EPA regulation put oil and gas stocks on notice? – Motley Fool, 2/15/15
<http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2015/02/15/did-this-proposed-epa-regulation-put-oil-and-gas-s.aspx>

Obama Administration's mercury emissions rules will impact millions
– Wheeling News-Register, 2/15/15
<http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/625295/Obama-Administration-s-Mercury-E---.html>

W.Va. county health board opposes natural gas pipeline – The Intermountain, 2/15/15
<http://theintermountain.com/page/content.detail/id/793803/W-Va--county-health-board-opposes-natural-gas-pipeline.html?isap=1&nav=5023>

Dominion surveys alternative pipeline route – WV Public News Service, 2/16/15
<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/2015-02-16/environment/dominion-surveys-alternative-pipeline-route/a44572-1>

Property owners brace for Constitution Pipeline eminent domain
– Pittsburg Post-Gazette, 2/16/15
<http://powersource.post-gazette.com/powersource/latest-oil-and-gas/2015/02/16/Property-Owners-Brace-For-Constitution-Pipeline-Eminent-Domain/stories/201502160110>

Columbia Gas eyes pipeline proposal – Danville Register & Bee, 2/16/15
http://www.godanriver.com/news/pittsylvania_county/columbia-gas-eyes-pipeline-proposal/article_65c72ce2-b3de-11e4-8f8e-cb270e65f6c8.html

How safe are natural gas and oil pipelines? – Legal Examiner, 2/16/15
<http://virginiabeach.legalexaminer.com/toxic-substances/how-safe-are-natural-gas-and-oil-pipelines/>

Catawba Valley farm family jolted by potential new pipeline route
– Roanoke Times, 2/16/15
http://www.roanoke.com/news/local/roanoke_county/catawba-valley-farm-family-jolted-by-potential-new-pipeline-route/article_4859c175-5e82-5dc1-b1c7-2e942daed319.html