Reminder: send in reports on ACP open houses

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline open houses continue this week and next in Virginia and West Virginia: Wednesday, 1/14 in Nelson County, Thursday, 1/15 in Highland County, Tuesday, 1/20 next week in Augusta County and Wednesday, 1/21 in Randolph County. As requested in last week’s Update (#10, January 5), ABRA organizations are urged to have their respective memberships turn out in strong numbers and to file reports on the proceedings so that we can prepare an overview report of the open houses. Multiple reports from each open house are encouraged and they will be treated confidentially. Please send your emailed reports to Dan Shaffer, dshaffer@abralliance.org within a few days of the open house on which you are reporting.

Congress to consider expediting FERC approval of natural gas pipelines

A bill that would require the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to act upon an application for a natural gas pipeline project “not later than 12 months after receiving a complete application that is ready to be processed” was reintroduced in the new Congress last week. H.R. 161 is sponsored by Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-KS), who sponsored the same measure was introduced in the last Congress as HR 1900. It passed the House of Representatives 262 to 165, but did not put to a vote in the U.S. Senate. See http://energycommerce.house.gov/press-release/rep-pompeo-introduces-new-bill-expedite-critical-natural-gas-pipeline-approvals-part for more details and a link to the text of the bill.

In the News . . .

Atlantic Coast Pipeline meetings get underway amid growing landowner resistance
– Institute for Southern Studies, 1/5/15

Parasitic pipelines worm way through Earth – Philadelphia Tribune, 1/5/15
http://www.phillytrib.com/article_2348e8dc-1271-544e-810a-81673e9e29a.html

Should Dominion get to walk all over property rights?
– Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1/6/15
http://www.richmond.com/opinion/our-opinion/article_5ae34be2-5e7d-55c4-a8eb-65f841107345.html

Natural gas pipeline plans worry landowners about values, future
– Fayetteville Observer, 1/6/15
Public Meetings in North Carolina Over Controversial Pipeline
– Public News Service, 1/7/15

Residents: Keep natural gas project out of NH – Monadnock Ledger-Transcript, 1/7/15

Serious Pipeline Battle Brewing in the Shenandoah Valley
– Full-Time Whistle, Raleigh, NC, 1/7/15

Pipeline won't live up to the hype - Roanoke Times, 1/7/15
http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/commentary/miller-pipeline-won-t-live-up-to-the-hype/article_58bbc7cf-5427-50d7-bd63-41bf7c460922.html

Study results add fuel to natural gas pipeline debate
– Eagle-Tribune (North Andover, MA), 1/8/15

Could Keystone Be America's Last Pipeline? – Politico, 1/10/15
http://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2015/01/keystone-be-americas-last-pipeline114137_full.html#.VLM4H9E5DIV

Consider Dominion's recent actions – Staunton News-Leader, 1-10-15

West Virginia prepares for natural gas pipelines – WV State Journal, 1/10/15

Pipeline will bring jobs and energy independence – Staunton News-Leader, 1/10/15
http://www.newsleader.com/story/opinion/columnists/2015/01/10/pipeline-will-bring-jobs-energy-independence/21568699/

Demand, not export, requires proposed gas pipeline
– Charlottesville Daily Progress, 1/10/15