



ABRA Update #36 – July, 8, 2015

New Study Questions Economic Benefit Claims of ACP

The claimed economic benefits of the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) are overstated, lack sufficient supporting data and fail to account for environmental and societal costs, according to a newly released analysis by Synapse Energy Economics of Cambridge, MA. Atlantic Coast Pipeline Benefits Review was commissioned by the Southern Environmental Law Center (SELC) and is being released July 8 jointly with ABRA.

The Synapse review criticizes the credibility of the economic claims included in the Chmura and ICF reports previously released by Dominion Resources. A copy of the press release is available at http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/PressRelease_SynapseReport_070815_final.pdf. A copy of the complete Synapse report is available at http://abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/Synapse_Report_ACP_June_2015.pdf.

Regulatory Dysfunction and the ACP: A Call for Action

“We cannot count on state government to provide the necessary oversight and accountability” for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, according to a new white paper released this week by the Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition, an ABRA member. “*Regulatory Dysfunction and What We Can Do About It*” describes the regulatory requirements that pipeline companies are supposed to be subject to and documents how these requirements are being under-enforced.

ABRA members are urged to contact Governor Terry McAuliffe, Secretary of Natural Resources Molly Ward and Department of Environmental Quality Director David Paylor to urge that rigorous regulatory oversight, as required by law, be exercised over the Atlantic Coast Pipeline should the project move forward. Specifics on the points to be made in a communication and the contact information for Gov. McAuliffe, Ms. Ward and Mr. Paylor are included in the paper, which is available at <http://pipelineupdate.org/2015/07/06/pipelines-erosion-and-sediment-control-regulatory-dysfunction-what-we-can-do-about-it/>.

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline: A Step Backwards

A new, compelling video on the significant impacts the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline would have on the communities through which it would traverse has been produced and released by 14 year-old Arlo Bloom, a Nelson County resident. Arlo will be a freshman at Nelson High School this fall. The 18-minute video was his 8th grade end of the year school project!!

You can view Arlo’s video, The Atlantic Coast Pipeline: A Step Backwards, at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uGN4yqUt9vc>. Then, forward the link to your neighbors and public officials. This is must viewing!!

New Study Calls Many LNG Projects Uneconomic

A new global gas study, published July 7 by the London-based Carbon Tracker Initiative, identifies \$283 billion of possible liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects to 2025 that are likely to be surplus to requirements in a low demand scenario. The study determines that over the next ten years \$71 billion of potential LNG plants will not be needed in the United States. The value of unneeded LNG projects world-wide would rise to \$379 billion by 2035. The study is available at <http://www.carbontracker.org/report/gascostcurve/>.

In the News:

Local/Atlantic Coast Pipeline

Atlantic Coast Pipeline hearing goes before new judge

- Roanoke Times – 7/1/15

http://www.roanoke.com/news/virginia/atlantic-coast-pipeline-hearing-goes-before-new-judge/article_697c880c-5b84-504c-bfcc-a65b0573df8b.html

Two suits being heard again...perhaps this time will be different

Dominion makes changes to pipeline route in Southside Virginia

- Roanoke Times – 7/7/15

http://www.roanoke.com/news/virginia/dominion-makes-changes-to-pipeline-route/article_1e1b5697-fdc9-5040-8ab7-22804c6be027.html

Well, it's a start...

Our view: The big picture on pipelines

- Roanoke Times – 7/5/15

http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-the-big-picture-on-pipelines/article_5401cd7c-7f35-5dd7-b74c-43e4bdcd0455.html

The race is on in the Wild Wild East

Dominion outlines new power plan

- Richmond Times Dispatch – 7/2/15

http://www.richmond.com/business/article_d037442f-a650-5caf-be67-c266b7a4895f.html

“Utility scale solar the cheapest option” Never thought I’d hear that from Dominion!

More Gas in Dominion’s Electric Power Future

- Bacon’s Rebellion – 7/2/15

<http://www.baconsrebellion.com/2015/07/more-gas-in-dominions-electric-power-future.html>

Regional/Mountain Valley Pipeline, other

Werner: Mountain Valley Pipeline ads are deceptive

- Roanoke Times – 7/5/15

http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/werner-mountain-valley-pipeline-ads-are-deceptive/article_a3cfae26-d0bb-5e59-87c0-21cbf1089133.html

Better capture it before it's gone

Big Picture:

Methane emissions in Barnett greater than estimated, study says

- The Dallas Morning News – 7/7/15

<http://bizbeatblog.dallasnews.com/2015/07/methane-emissions-in-barnett-greater-than-estimated-study-says.html/>

EPA 'doing the best they can with the information they have...'

Our nation needs pipelines | Letter

- NJ.com – 7/6/15

http://www.nj.com/opinion/index.ssf/2015/07/our_nation_needs_pipelines_letter.html

Good point-no state exists in a vacuum

U.S. gas heading for Mexico

- The Dallas Morning News – 7/3/15

<http://www.dallasnews.com/business/energy/20150703-u.s.-gas-heading-for-mexico.ece>

The gas glut – looking for outlets