



## **ABRA Update #15– February 11, 2015**

### **Dominion Releases New Economic Study on ACP**

Dominion Resources released on February 11 a new economic study on the economic impacts of the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline on market area natural gas and electric prices, as well as impacts on regional economies. The study was conducted by ICF International (ICFI), a consulting firm headquartered in Fairfax, VA.

The study projects that natural gas demand from electric utilities in VA and NC will quadruple between 2014 and 2035; projected demand in residential, commercial and industrial markets is expected to remain relatively flat, with a less than .5% per annum growth in each sector. The study also foresees net annual average energy cost savings of \$243 million in VA and \$134 million in NC. It estimates that these energy savings will have a stimulus effect that on average will produce: 1) 2,225 new permanent jobs (1,300 in VA, 925 in NC); and 2) \$131 million in annual labor income (\$83 million in VA, \$48 in NC).

A copy of the ICFI study is available on the ABRA website ([http://abraliance.org/?page\\_id=8](http://abraliance.org/?page_id=8)) as is a copy of Dominion's press release.

### **New DOE Study Examines Natural Gas Pipeline Infrastructure Needs**

The U.S. Department of Energy released this week a study of the "potential infrastructure needs of the U.S. interstate natural gas pipeline transmission system under several future natural gas demand scenarios." The study was conducted by Deloitte MarketPoint. Key findings of the study were:

1. Diverse sources of natural gas supply and demand will reduce the need for additional interstate natural gas pipeline infrastructure.
2. Higher utilization of existing interstate natural gas pipeline infrastructure will reduce the need for new pipelines. The U.S. pipeline system is not fully utilized because flow patterns have evolved with changes in supply and demand. Increased demand for natural gas in the scenarios considered by this analysis does not lead to larger increases in pipeline capacity because, in some regions, available existing pipeline capacity is projected to be used before expanding existing pipelines or building new capacity.
3. Incremental interstate natural gas pipeline infrastructure needs in a future with an illustrative national carbon policy are projected to be modest relative to the Reference Case
4. While there are constraints to siting new interstate natural gas pipeline infrastructure, the projected pipeline capacity additions in this study are lower than past additions that have accommodated such constraints.

A copy of the study is available on the ABRA website at [http://abraliance.org/?page\\_id=8](http://abraliance.org/?page_id=8). News reports on the DOE study can be found below (p. 3, third and fifth items from the bottom).

## **Former FERC Attorney Added to March 7 ABRA Meeting Agenda**

John Roddy, a former litigator for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, has been added to the March 7 ABRA Membership Meeting program. Mr. Roddy will participate in a panel discussing “The Issues and Objectives – What Is Relevant?” He is a long-time property owner in eastern Pocahontas County, WV.

## **National Forest Comments Due Friday**

This Friday, February 13, is the deadline for comments to the Monongahela National Forest on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline’s application to survey. Details at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gwj/home/?cid=stelprd3824603>.

Comments are also due Friday on the Mountain Valley Pipeline’s application to survey. Details at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gwj/home/?cid=stelprd3827827>

Check out our website to see the excellent comments already filed with the Monongahela National Forest by ABRA member representatives Nelson Hoy and Lizzie Biggs and by Pam and Art Dodds for the Laurel Mountain Preservation Association.

## **Singer, Composer Carole King Opposes ACP**

Renowned singer and composer Carole King filed a letter on February 2 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission opposing the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. She noted that she has had a long association with the Satchidanda Ashram-Yogaville in Buckingham, VA. She wrote that “going ahead with the pipeline and compressor will adversely impact the Ashram’s ability to serve the thousands of visitors who come to Yogaville from around the world” and that “the loss of visitors to the Ashram will have a deleterious effect on the economy in that part of Virginia.” A copy of Ms. King’s letter is available on the ABRA website at [http://abralliance.org/?page\\_id=8](http://abralliance.org/?page_id=8).

## **In the News . . .**

### **Deerfield will file federal claim against FERC**

– The Recorder (Greenfield, MA), 2/3/15

<http://www.recorder.com/news/townbytown/deerfield/15435600-95/deerfield-will-file-federal-negligence-claim-against-ferc>

### **PA steel producer selected for Atlantic Coast Pipeline**

– Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 2/4/15

[http://www.bdtonline.com/news/pa-steel-producer-selected-for-atlantic-coast-pipeline/article\\_27585794-ac7a-11e4-b5cb-cbcde532f74b.html](http://www.bdtonline.com/news/pa-steel-producer-selected-for-atlantic-coast-pipeline/article_27585794-ac7a-11e4-b5cb-cbcde532f74b.html)

### **Local citizens come together to fight proposed Mountain Valley pipeline**

– Smith Mountain Eagle, 2/4/15

[http://www.smithmountaineagle.com/news/article\\_6a1419ba-aca7-11e4-b2fa-037ea6e918c8.html](http://www.smithmountaineagle.com/news/article_6a1419ba-aca7-11e4-b2fa-037ea6e918c8.html)

### **Mountain Valley Pipeline considers alternative routes – WKPT-TV, Roanoke, 2/4/15**

<http://abc19.tv/mountain-valley-pipeline-considers-alternative-routes/>

### **New England’s dependence on natural gas expected to increase**

– Providence Journal, 2/5/15

<http://www.providencejournal.com/news/content/20150204-new-englands-dependence-on-natural-gas-for-power-generation-expected-to-increase.ece>

### **Monroe planners weigh in on proposed pipeline – Beckley Register-Herald, 2/5/15**

[http://www.register-herald.com/news/monroe-planners-weigh-in-on-proposed-pipeline/article\\_ebc14ce5-12cf-502b-b536-e20895d8b1d9.html](http://www.register-herald.com/news/monroe-planners-weigh-in-on-proposed-pipeline/article_ebc14ce5-12cf-502b-b536-e20895d8b1d9.html)

### **Natural gas era unfolds in Pennsylvania without a cohesive strategy to make it sane and safe – Wilkes-Barre Times Leader, 2/5/15**

<http://www.timesleader.com/news/editorial-ouropinion/151628230/OUR-VIEW-Even-an-energy-revolution-needs-leaders>

**Natural gas pipeline route apt to change after hearings** – Bluefield Daily Telegraph, 2/6/15  
[http://www.bdtonline.com/news/natural-gas-pipeline-route-apt-to-change-after-hearings/article\\_b9146ea8-adb4-11e4-9532-afc187d1475c.html](http://www.bdtonline.com/news/natural-gas-pipeline-route-apt-to-change-after-hearings/article_b9146ea8-adb4-11e4-9532-afc187d1475c.html)

**A proposed pipeline tests property rights in Virginia** – Washington Post, 2/6/15  
[http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-proposed-pipeline-tests-property-rights-in-virginia/2015/02/06/f18bo226-abe1-11e4-9c91-e9d2fgfde644\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-proposed-pipeline-tests-property-rights-in-virginia/2015/02/06/f18bo226-abe1-11e4-9c91-e9d2fgfde644_story.html)

**"Leading-edge" pipeline safety bill filed in Kentucky General Assembly**  
– WDRB-TV, Louisville, 2/6/15  
<http://www.wdrb.com/story/28047297/leading-edge-pipeline-safety-bill-filed-in-kentucky-general-assembly>

**Local action group sponsors meetings to increase pipeline awareness**  
– Gilmer (WV) Free Press, 2/6/15  
[http://www.gilmerfreepress.net/index.php/site/comments/local\\_action\\_group\\_sponsors\\_meetings\\_to\\_increase\\_pipeline\\_aw\\_areness/](http://www.gilmerfreepress.net/index.php/site/comments/local_action_group_sponsors_meetings_to_increase_pipeline_aw_areness/)

**Power companies seek bargain over rates** – Roanoke Times, 2/7/15  
[http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/general\\_assembly/power-companies-seek-bargain-over-rates/article\\_e44adb87-f8dd-5a83-b932-1245ccodd230.html](http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/general_assembly/power-companies-seek-bargain-over-rates/article_e44adb87-f8dd-5a83-b932-1245ccodd230.html)

**Giles County Seismic Zone should be a no-pipeline zone** – Roanoke Times, 2/8/15  
[http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/general\\_assembly/power-companies-seek-bargain-over-rates/article\\_e44adb87-f8dd-5a83-b932-1245ccodd230.html](http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/general_assembly/power-companies-seek-bargain-over-rates/article_e44adb87-f8dd-5a83-b932-1245ccodd230.html)

**Gretna says it wants the Mountain Valley Pipeline** – WDBJ7, Roanoke, 2/9/15  
<http://www.wdbj7.com/news/local/pittsylvania-countys-only-town-without-natural-gas-eying-mountain-valley-pipeline/31182996>

**Natural gas pipeline bills die in committee** – Roanoke Times, 2-9-15  
[http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/natural-gas-pipeline-bills-die-in-committee/article\\_c35ad6c8-e45d-513b-8857-bf9a7ea42f68.html](http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/natural-gas-pipeline-bills-die-in-committee/article_c35ad6c8-e45d-513b-8857-bf9a7ea42f68.html)

**Pipeline bills fail in committee** – Lynchburg News & Advance, 2/9/15  
[http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/pipeline-bills-fail-in-committee/article\\_ec24b66c-b0c6-11e4-a5d9-d39e3ab3bfca.html?mode=image&photo=1](http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/pipeline-bills-fail-in-committee/article_ec24b66c-b0c6-11e4-a5d9-d39e3ab3bfca.html?mode=image&photo=1)

**New DOE report weakens key argument against Obama's climate plans**  
– Washington Post, 2/9/15  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2015/02/09/a-new-report-just-shot-down-a-key-argument-against-president-obamas-climate-plans/>

**Halliburton says it will eliminate at least 5,000 jobs** – New York Times, 2/10/15  
<http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2015/02/10/business/ap-us-halliburton-job-cuts.html>

**Pipelines should have little trouble complying with carbon policy** – E&E, 2/10/15  
<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060013205/print>

**Dealmaker-in-chief does business with Dominion** – Richmond Times-Dispatch, 2/10/15  
[http://www.richmond.com/news/virginia/government-politics/jeff-schapiro/article\\_oca099b5-fef3-5af7-8d5b-d07163d9d8ee.html](http://www.richmond.com/news/virginia/government-politics/jeff-schapiro/article_oca099b5-fef3-5af7-8d5b-d07163d9d8ee.html)

**Pipeline debate reaches late into the night in Augusta** – News-Virginian, 2/11/15  
[http://www.dailypress.com/newsvirginian/news/local/pipeline-debate-reaches-late-into-the-night-in-augusta/article\\_1afc6cba-ace3-11e4-9173-873e7374b61b.html](http://www.dailypress.com/newsvirginian/news/local/pipeline-debate-reaches-late-into-the-night-in-augusta/article_1afc6cba-ace3-11e4-9173-873e7374b61b.html)