



ABRA Update #63 – January 20, 2016

Shenandoah Mountain to be Featured on *This American Land*



This American Land, a conservation news program shown on PBS stations nationwide, is producing a story on Shenandoah Mountain, a revered part of western Virginia that would be adversely impacted by the proposed route of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. The filming took place in November and involved interviews with local supporters, according to ABRA member Friends of Shenandoah Mountain (<http://www.friendsofshenandoahmountain.org/>). The finished piece is to be online in early spring and available to PBS stations soon afterwards. Read more about ***This American Land*** at <http://www.thisamericanland.org/>.

Dominion Responds to FERC Information Request

Dominion Transmission Inc. (DTI), on behalf of Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC, responded on January 13 to the December 4 request for further information on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) (http://www.abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/FERC_request_for_further_info_from_ACP_12-4-15.pdf). The 168 requests from FERC related to the 11 Resource Reports filed by DTI with the September 18, 2014 application to build the ACP. DTI's 397-page response covered a range of issues, including those relating to water, cultural resources, soils and noise issues. It is available at: [Dominion Response](#).

Among highlights:

- Site-specific horizontal direction drilling plans will be developed for each crossing and submitted to appropriate regulatory agencies (p. 12)
- Evaluations are provided for the environmental setting and impacts on groundwater associated with all non-jurisdictional facilities (p. 17)

- Water use information and impacts for compressor stations and hydrostatic testing are discussed (p. 20-27)
- In responding to a question on the economic impacts of hunting and fishing activities by the ACP, DTI responded that “long-term impacts on hunting and fishing activities are not anticipated.” (p. 67)
- Asked whether the ACP would “be consistent with, and not require a modification to, the local comprehensive plans and zoning or planning ordinances,” DTI said that “where local plans/ordinances exist, and where they address uses of this type, the Projects are generally consistent with local land use plans and ordinances.” (p. 101).

In the News:

Local/Atlantic Coast Pipeline

Wintergreen group urges alternative routes for ACP

- The News Virginian – 1/14/16

http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/virginian/news/wintergreen-group-urges-alternative-routes-for-ACP/article_a06f55c5-81a7-5df5-b7b0-c99c70b02c32.html

FOW pushing for increased use of co-location...if the project must go forward

Dominion Virginia’s Industrial Customers Mount Rate-Related Legal Appeal

- Energy manager Today – 1/14/16

<http://www.energymanagertoday.com/dominion-virginias-industrial-customers-mount-rate-related-legal-appeal-0121287/>

Dominion’s biggest customers less than happy about \$Billion handout

Regional/Mountain Valley Pipeline, other

Pipeline foes rally for repeal of surveying law

- The Daily Progress – 1/19/16

http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/pipeline-foes-rally-for-repeal-of-surveying-law/article_724b7c22-bf25-11e5-86f2-579ad98da4e9.html

Rally aims to show/build support for pending legislation to repeal a 2004 surveying law

Related:

<http://www.wdbj7.com/news/local/pipeline-opponents-press-state-lawmakers-to-repeal-controversial-law/37517714>

http://www.roanoke.com/news/politics/lawmakers-seek-to-scrap-law-on-pipeline-property/article_168428f9-ad78-5359-8b38-4b9465da6884.html

Transco Projects Bound by Compressor Station, Environmentalists Argue

- Natural Gas Intelligence – 1/14/16

<http://www.naturalgasintel.com/articles/105000-transco-projects-bound-by-compressor-station-environmentalists-argue>

Projects’ interdependence requires consolidated EIS analysis

Big Picture:

Environmental Groups Allege FERC Bias, Call For GAO Probe

- Natural Gas Intelligence – 1/19/16

<http://www.naturalgasintel.com/articles/105040-environmental-groups-allege-ferc-bias-call-for-gao-probe>

165 environmental groups ask Sanders and Warren to investigate FERC. **Remember to clear your cookies!**

NEES Files Protest with FERC Charging TGP Pipeline Proposal Incomplete, Inaccurate

- PR Newswire – 1/15/16

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/nees-files-protest-with-ferc-charging-tgp-pipeline-proposal-incomplete-inaccurate-300205200.html>

List of inaccuracies and omissions sounds a lot like ACP's proposal

Related:

<http://goinggreen.recorder.com/2016/01/15/ferc-under-fire-area-pipeline-opposition-groups-hammer-regulatory-agency/>

COG keeps heat on FERC over pipeline

- The Recorder: GoingGreen – 1/18/16

<http://goinggreen.recorder.com/2016/01/18/cog-keeps-heat-on-ferc-over-pipeline/>

COG demands FERC hearing over Public Need

Pipeline firm fires back at tree-clearing critics

- The Daily Star – 1/19/16

http://www.thedailystar.com/news/local_news/pipeline-firm-fires-back-at-tree-clearing-critics/article_6826f278-cd84-5f4b-9d94-b6a45ac7c6b0.html

Says opponents are twisting facts

Will local gas consumers benefit from the Palmetto Pipeline?

- Athens Banner-Herald – 1/16/16

<http://onlineathens.com/local-news/2016-01-16/will-local-gas-consumers-benefit-palmetto-pipeline>

Kinder Morgan pushing same "lower prices" sales pitch in the South.