The Allegheny Blue-Ridge Alliance (ABRA) is a coalition of 50 organizations, founded in September 2014, that opposes the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), a project of Dominion Resources and its partner companies. The ACP would disrupt some of the most ecologically sensitive areas in the Eastern United States, including portions of the George Washington and Monongahela National Forests. The proposed route would traverse steep mountain slopes and fragile karst topography, presenting a potential hazard to regional water supplies. Further, it would bring unjustified risks and costs to many rural communities in its path, negatively affecting property rights and values, without benefits to those affected.

What ABRA does

- Produces and distributes to members a weekly e-newsletter on the latest developments on the ACP and other relevant pipeline news, plus special alerts.

- Maintains a website as a resource for key documents, studies, regulatory actions and other pipeline issue developments (www.abralliance.org).

- Communicates with key public officials, the media and the general public on pipeline issues, including press releases, letters to the editor and speeches that explain the concerns about the ACP, particularly as it affects the Allegheny-Blue Ridge region.

- Assists member organizations in creating programs and grass roots strategies, by developing materials, conducting workshops and seminars and through individual consultations.

- Coordinates strategies among members to maximize collective effectiveness.

- Conducts and publicizes studies to provide substantiation for arguments about the ACP, included economic need and impacts, effects on water and steep mountain terrains, ecological impacts, pipeline safety and government actions on the ACP.

ABRA Members

(*has member on Steering Committee)

Allegheny Highlands Alliance*  BioQuest Solutions
All Pain No Gain*  Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Appalachian Mountain Advocates*  Climate Action Alliance of the Valley
Appalachian Voices*  Conservation Partners
Augusta County Alliance*  Cooper Conservation Advisors, LLC
Cowpasture River Preservation Association
Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition*
Eight Rivers Council
Friends of Augusta
Friends of Blackwater
Friends of Buckingham Virginia*
Friends of the Central Shenandoah
Friends of the Middle River
Friends of Nelson County
Friends of Shenandoah Mountain
Friends of Water
Free Nelson
Greenbrier River Watershed Association
Highland County Cave Survey
Highlanders for Responsible Development*
Jackson River Preservation Association, Inc.
James River Association
Mountain Lakes Preservation Association
Pipeline Education Group
Rockbridge Area Conservation Council
Shaver’s Fork Coalition
Shenandoah Group of the Sierra Club
Shenandoah Riverkeeper
Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation
Shenandoah Valley Network*
Sierra Club – Virginia Chapter*
Southern Environmental Law Center*
Southern Shenandoah Valley Chapter,
Potomack Appalachian Trail Club
Valley Conservation Council
Virginia Native Plant Society
Virginia Wilderness Committee
Voices From Bath
Waterkeepers Chesapeake
West Virginia Environmental Council
West Virginia Highlands Conservancy
West Virginia Rivers Coalition*
West Virginians for Property Rights
Whitescarver Natural Resources Management, LLC
Wild Virginia*
Yogaville Satchidananda Ashram*

How we operate

ABRA is governed by a 14-member Steering Committee comprised of representatives of member organizations (* on list above). Policy positions are subject to membership approval. The Steering Committee is responsible for interpreting policy and developing implementation plans. Staff (Chair/Executive Director and a Communications Coordinator) carry out implementation.

How we are supported

ABRA’s activities are supported by grants from philanthropic foundations, donations from ABRA member organizations and contributions from individuals. ABRA’s fiscal agent is Highlanders for Responsible Development, a 501 (c)(3), tax-exempt organization. Contributions from individuals are welcome. Checks should be made out to “Highlanders for Responsible Development – ABRA” and mailed to:

Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance
P.O. Box 685
Monterey, VA 24465.

For further information, contact:
Lewis Freeman, Chair/Executive Director
lewfreeman@gmail.com  540-468-2769 (o/h) or 703-298-8107 (c)