

OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA



PATRICK MORRISEY
ATTORNEY GENERAL

April 6, 2017

Via www.ferc.gov

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.
Deputy Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

Re: A communication from the State of West Virginia regarding approval of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (Docket Nos. CP15-554-000 and CP15-554-001).

Dear Mr. Davis:

As the chief legal officer of West Virginia, I respectfully ask that the Commission approve the pending application of a project that has significant potential to improve the economy of the State of West Virginia: the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. The project stands to offer new jobs, new economic activity, and lower energy prices for the citizens of West Virginia. I join with other public officials from the States of West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina in asking you to approve the project.¹

The project represents a significant opportunity for West Virginia. It would encourage the continued growth of the State's natural gas production by linking West Virginia's natural gas supply to growing energy markets in the southeast. A September 2014 report showed that the

¹ Letter from leaders of the West Virginia Senate and House of Delegates; Virginia Senate and House of Delegates; and North Carolina Senate and House of Representatives to Nathaniel J. Davis, Jr., Deputy Secretary, Fed. Energy Regulatory Comm'n, Docket Nos. CP15-554-000 and CP15-554-001 (Apr. 4, 2017).

Re: Docket Nos. CP15-554-000 and CP15-554-001 (Atlantic Coast Pipeline)

April 6, 2017

Page 2

project would generate nearly \$479 million in new economic activity in West Virginia.² Construction of the project would also generate nearly 3,100 jobs for hard-working West Virginians.³ These new jobs would provide hope and opportunity for families and communities throughout the State.

The project also would provide the State with valuable tax dollars including \$113,678 in annual tax revenue from 2019 onward.⁴ And the draft Environmental Impact Study demonstrates that the project can be accomplished without threatening West Virginia's priceless natural resources.⁵

Accordingly, I respectfully urge the Commission to approve the project upon completion of its review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "PATRICK MORRISSEY". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Patrick Morrissey
Attorney General of West Virginia

² The Economic Impact of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline in West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina at 16, Chmura Economics & Analytics (September 2014).

³ *See id.*

⁴ *Id.* at 3.

⁵ *See* Draft Environmental Impact Statement at ES-14.

Document Content(s)

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