RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Dominion Virginia Power has proposed to construct a natural gas pipeline extending from Clarksburg, West Virginia to Robeson County, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Forty-three miles of the proposed pipeline are currently planned to traverse through Augusta County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors shares the concerns of Augusta County citizens over the possible consequences of a new natural gas pipeline traversing the county; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been elected to protect and look after the health and safety of the Augusta County Citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is concerned about the potential impact of the pipeline on existing residences, businesses, industries, and churches and other houses of worship located in close proximity to the proposed path of the pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is concerned about the safety of our children and the potential impact on schools, parks, and playgrounds, especially within the stated “blast range” of the proposed pipeline; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has been entrusted by its citizens to plan for the future of the County and as such has adopted a Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map for the County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors is concerned about the impact the proposed pipeline will have on future Residential, Business, and Industrial growth areas as identified in the Augusta County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes the significant economic and cultural value of the County’s agricultural land and natural resources and the challenges of building in karst areas and is concerned about the impact of the proposed pipeline on those valuable and fragile resources.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors, in furtherance of our responsibilities in ensuring the health, safety and welfare of Augusta County residents through the diligent adherence to the ordinances, procedures and precautions as prescribed in the County Code of Augusta, which is in full compliance with State authority and dictates, will process the Dominion pipeline proposal as a rezoning. The full process of the rezoning which calls for the Planning Commission to review the application, compile comments from impacted agencies including, but not limited to, VDOT, National Park Service, Health Department, Augusta County Service Authority, Augusta County Schools, Economic Development Authority, Engineering, Zoning, and Planning Professionals and conduct a Public Hearing for input from our residents. And as is the requirement of the Code all landowners in and adjacent to the proposed change of property use and rights will be notified of the proposal and their right to be heard at the Public Hearing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Dominion is hereby offered the right to participate in the process as the applicant. But notwithstanding Dominion’s decision not to participate in this process, Dominion is hereby requested that they provide the Planning Commission of Augusta County the proposed route through our County, construction specifications, and other information critical to evaluating the impact of the pipeline on our County.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, following the Planning Commission’s Public Hearing, the vote and recommendations, along with its compiled report will be forwarded to the Augusta County Board of Supervisors for its Public Hearing and vote. This vote and its recommendations will be forwarded to Dominion, the Governor of Virginia, and the Federal Energy Regulating Commission for their hoped for adherence to the decisions of this recognized process put in place for the public good by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors respectfully requests Dominion Virginia Power to actively participate in this review process and invites Dominion Virginia Power and representatives of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to attend the public hearings.

BE IT YET FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes and sent to Dominion Virginia Power and to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Adopted: September 10, 2014

Chairman, Augusta County Board of Supervisors