

CP15-554, CP16-10

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND



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COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:
GENERAL LAWS
TRANSPORTATION
APPROPRIATIONS

**FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION**

December 1, 2015

The Honorable Norman C. Bay and Commissioners
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Docket # CP15-554-000 (Atlantic Coast Pipeline) & Docket #CP16-10-000 (Mountain Valley Pipeline)

Dear Chairman Bay and Commissioners,

Thank you for your dedication and efforts on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. As a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, I am writing to respectfully request that you conduct a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, Mountain Valley Pipeline, Appalachian Connector Pipeline, and WB Xpress project proposals. Due to the tight geographic and temporal scope of these projects, I believe a PEIS is necessary to understand the cumulative impacts of this development, should all four of these projects proceed.

Given the potentially large impacts of these projects, I believe that it is important to thoughtfully consider all the possibilities. I have heard from numerous organizations and constituents throughout Virginia and many of them are concerned about the impacts on the rural character of the central Blue Ridge and Appalachian Mountain region, the clearing of forest habitats that are occupied by endangered or threatened species, increasing the region's greenhouse gas emission, adversely affecting the region's air quality, harming the water quality and watersheds providing drinking water, the regional economy, and the protection of our national park forests.

A PEIS would allow FERC to develop and assess alternatives that would minimize or avoid the cumulative impacts of these pipelines. A specific concern that I have commonly heard voiced questions the overall need of these pipelines. It is our duty to try to avoid the worst impacts of climate change; to do that I feel that we must be transitioning to renewable energy instead. The balance of necessary energy development and protection of citizens' homes and environment is a topic that warrants serious discussion. It would seem that a PEIS is both a sensible and necessary component of this process, and I encourage you take it into your consideration.

Thank you for your attention and deliberation regarding the issues raised in this letter.

Sincerely,

Betsy B. Carr

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