



We work with the people who work the land.

Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District  
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December 17, 2014

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Docket#: PF15-6-000**  
**RE: Protection of Flood Control Dams**

Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) received pre-filling notification as a landowner and owner of easements affected within the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

The Headwaters SWCD has the operation and maintenance responsibility for eleven (11) flood control dams in Augusta County, Virginia. The proposed pipeline will cross a section of the county that has the potential to impact a number of those dams depending on the final route. These dams protect as many as 800 properties and hundreds of lives downstream in Augusta County and the City of Waynesboro.

To protect those properties and lives we request the following protections be a mandatory part of any federal approvals:

- Any easements obtained by Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC or its subsidiaries with landowners must protect the rights the district has under the existing easements to construct, operate and maintain the dam.
- The pipeline cannot be installed through the embankment or the auxiliary (emergency) spillway.
- Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC or its subsidiaries must avoid impacts such as damage to roads to and from the dams.
- Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC or its subsidiaries must adhere to all federal, state and local erosion and sediment control regulations to avoid possible soil erosion that may find its way to the reservoirs and cause deposition issues in the pool.

- Blasting is prohibited within three quarters of a mile ( $3/4$  mile) distance of the dam because of shaking of the embankment caused by the pipeline construction. All rock must be removed within this distance with rock breakers on an excavator in lieu of blasting. Shaking of the embankment may lead to dam failure upon the next storm fill.
- Blasting between three quarters of a mile and one and a quarter mile distance ( $3/4 - 1 1/4$  mile) of a dam will require a monitoring plan to ensure that nothing happened to the dam's embankment.

Attached is a map with the location of dams within the county. The Headwaters SWCD asks that these safeguards for public safety be included as a part of any approvals.

Sincerely,

*Richard Shiflet/cp*

Richard Shiflet, Chairman

cc: Carole A. McCoy  
Atlantic Coast Pipeline  
701 E. Cary Street,  
Richmond, VA 23219

Augusta County Board of Supervisors  
City of Staunton – Council  
City of Waynesboro - Council

Enclosure







