



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Blue Ridge Parkway
199 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803



IN REPLY REFER

July 16, 2020

Mr. Paul Friedman, Environmental Project Manager
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

RE: OEP/DG2E/G3
Mountain Valley Pipeline LLC
CP16-10-000

Dear Mr. Friedman:

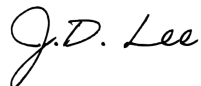
The National Park Service (NPS) is evaluating the issuance of a new Right of Way (ROW) permit to authorize the maintenance and operations of the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP), which crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway (BLRI) at mile marker 135.9. The NPS, in coordination with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, previously complied with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the implementing regulations (36 CFR 800) for the federal undertaking of issuing a ROW and construction permits for the MVP in December 2017, by signing the Programmatic Agreement (PA) related to that undertaking, as indicated on page 4 of the PA, which notes that the pipeline will cross the BLRI “and the NPS must issue a Right-of-Way Grant and construction permits allowing the MVP pipeline to cross NPS lands....” In January 2019, construction of the MVP across the BLRI was completed. In February 2019, NPS suspended the permits at MVP’s request due to a technical inconsistency.

The NPS is now reconsidering MVP’s application. The actions of NPS in issuing a new ROW permit will continue the elements of the project as captured in the December 2017 PA. Although the NPS was previously a signatory to the PA and this is not a wholly new undertaking, the NPS is hereby providing notice to the other signatories of these current efforts and reaffirming its intention to continue applying and following the terms of the PA, consistent with section VIII(E). During a telephonic meeting on June 17, 2020, the NPS consulted with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), which concurred with this approach.

Accordingly, please regard this letter as a notification of our expected issuance of a ROW permit to Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, and as concurrence by the NPS to the terms of the PA for that undertaking.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Alexa Viets, Chief of Resource Management and Interpretation for BLRI, at (202) 641-3529, or by email to alexa_viets@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J.D. Lee".

JD Lee
Superintendent

cc: Jason Waanders, Department of Interior (via email)

Document Content(s)

NPS-BRP-Notice-ROW-7-16-20.PDF.....1-2