

**RESOLUTION OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAUNTON, VIRGINIA
IN OPPOSITION TO ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE**

WHEREAS, Dominion Virginia Power has entered into what the company describes as a joint venture with three other major U.S. energy companies—Duke Energy, Piedmont Natural Gas and AGL Resources—to build and own a natural gas pipeline which will traverse portions of three states, including 11 counties and two cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project will pass in close proximity to a public water source and boundary of the City; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Dominion Virginia Power, upon the invitation of City Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, made a presentation about the project to Council at its meeting on August 28, 2014, held at Robert E. Lee High School to accommodate an overflow audience; and

WHEREAS, reflective of the considerable public interest in the project, dozens of individuals at the meeting, through questions submitted to City Council and comments made during the public comment period, registered their strong opposition to the project, as proposed; and

WHEREAS, members of City Council share many of the concerns expressed by citizens of the City and desire, as a body, to express their opposition to the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that:

1. Council joins with other localities in the Commonwealth of Virginia, including the counties of Augusta and Nelson, in their expressions of concern about and opposition to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.
 2. Council opposes the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and urges Dominion Virginia Power and all others involved to reduce reliance on natural gas and to seek solutions for the 21st century, including conservation and renewable energy such as solar and wind power, that will satisfy future energy needs without imperiling the natural bounty and beauty of our region and the health and safety of our citizens.
 3. In the event Dominion Virginia Power and its partners submit an application for construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"), Council, in the strongest possible terms, urges FERC to withhold approval of the project, on the basis that the natural gas to be transported is not believed to be required to serve the energy needs of Virginia or North Carolina (a significant portion of which can be satisfied by conservation and renewable energy
-

sources) and, therefore, the pipeline will neither serve the public interest nor satisfy the legal standard of "public convenience and necessity."

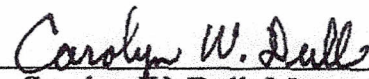
4. Council respectfully requests that the Governor of Virginia reconsider his public endorsement of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, and, after consultation with the City of Staunton and other localities that would be impacted by the project and consideration of risks to the environment (including threats to karst environments and water supplies locally in the Shenandoah Valley, elsewhere in the Commonwealth of Virginia and in the District of Columbia and the State of Maryland) and the state's economy (including its agricultural and tourism sectors), oppose the project.

5. Council respectfully requests that Senator Mark Warner, Senator Tim Kaine and Congressman Bob Goodlatte join publicly in opposition to the project, communicate their opposition to FERC and take appropriate action to encourage FERC to withhold approval of the project.

6. In the event Dominion Virginia Power and its partners elect to proceed with the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, and the project is approved by FERC, Council implores Dominion Virginia Power and its partners to give full consideration to the use of existing utility and highway corridors for the project, so as to minimize, to the greatest extent possible, the impacts of construction, maintenance and operation of the project.

7. Council directs that the Clerk of Council send a copy of this resolution to Dominion Virginia Power, Senator Mark Warner, Senator Tim Kaine, Congressman Bob Goodlatte, Governor Terry McAuliffe and Cheryl A. LaFleur, Chairman of FERC.

Adopted this 23th day of October, 2014.


Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

Attest: 
Linda Little, Clerk of Council