



July 12, 2021

Via Electronic Delivery

Michael E. Hatten
Chief, Regulatory Branch
Huntington District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
502 Eighth Street
Huntington, WV 27501

Re: Response to various articles concerning EPA's letter dated May 27, 2021

Dear Mr. Hatten:

Recently, there have been several reported media articles and social media posts regarding a May 27, 2021, letter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) concerning their review of Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC's (Mountain Valley) Individual Permit application submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Some of the reporting included misleading statements made by known project opponents who mischaracterized the scope and purpose of EPA's letter. Mountain Valley provides this response to correct the record.

Mountain Valley appreciates the comments provided by all stakeholders including the EPA. We are currently reviewing the EPA's comments and plan to provide responses to the Corps that will address any concerns and recommendations reflected in the letter. Through this process, Mountain Valley will work with the Corps and EPA to ensure the project avoids and minimizes impacts to streams and wetlands, mitigates any unavoidable impacts and completes successful restoration. We are confident that the current application with our additional responses will satisfy EPA's recommendations.

Since the project's inception, Mountain Valley has been committed to safely and responsibly constructing the Mountain Valley Pipeline in a manner that will minimize environmental impacts. Throughout the construction process, Mountain Valley has worked with all applicable federal and state regulatory agencies to develop plans and implement best practices related to project construction. To avoid sensitive resources, we have modified construction plans where appropriate and have enhanced measures to protect environmental resources based on input from public and private stakeholders.

In February, Mountain Valley submitted a comprehensive application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for an individual permit to authorize the impacts, the majority of which are temporary, associated with MVP's construction across streams and wetlands. The Corps' process for reviewing permit applications includes an opportunity for the public and governmental agencies

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to comment on the proposed project. Those comments are vital to the Corps' process for evaluating an application, as they may identify information gaps in the application or suggest prudent revisions to the project that will result in a greater level of environmental protection. In fact, EPA routinely makes comments on pending Corps permit applications and often recommends changes prior to the Corps' final decision on the permit. This is all part of the normal regulatory process and reflects a well-functioning government oversight system.

As is typical for a project this size, the Corps received voluminous comments on the permit application in late May, including comments and recommendations from the EPA, and we welcome the careful review reflected in these submissions. We appreciate that even our project opponents have acknowledged the robustness of the review, which is now reflected in the administrative record.

In sum, the application process is working exactly as intended. Mountain Valley will continue to work with the Corps, the EPA, and authorities in Virginia and West Virginia to address all pertinent comments and recommendations. Through this ongoing review and revision process, the Corps will be able to ground its final decision on Mountain Valley's permit application based on a robust record that considers and includes substantial public involvement.

If you have any questions, please contact me at tnormane@equitransmidstream.com.

Respectfully submitted,
MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE, LLC
by and through its operator,
EQM Gathering Opco, LLC
By:



Todd Normane
Deputy General Counsel

cc: (Via Electronic Delivery)

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Kathy Emery, WVDEP
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