

# REASONS TO OPPOSE THE ATLANTIC COAST PIPELINE

The pipeline projects outlined by Dominion Transmission, Inc. represent a massive assault on the people, the environment and the communities along the proposed route.

The impacts of extraction transport and combustion of natural gas will have a devastating impact on the entire planet. Like coal, natural gas is a fossil fuel. The burning of any fossil fuel releases large amounts of toxic air pollution and global warming gas.

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline project would be capable of delivering 1.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day. The project would build 592 miles of pipelines, seven compressor stations, and numerous supporting facilities in four states. The projects would disrupt 12,972 acres of land during construction and retain 4,370 acres permanently.



The environmental impacts of such a large number of facilities would be devastating to the environment and public health. Natural gas extracted by hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, is transported in trucks, compressed and delivered by pipelines. At each stage in this process, pollution is created.

A major source of air pollution from natural gas pipelines is compressor stations. Spaced about 50 to 100 miles apart, they keep the gas moving along the pipeline from production site to end use. Power for these compressors is provided by internal combustion engines which use natural gas as a fuel source. These engines release huge amounts of air pollution including sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), volatile organic compounds (VOC), carbon monoxide (CO), particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), and hazardous air pollutants such as benzene and formaldehyde. The Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League's review of compressor stations in Virginia and North Carolina reveals high levels of air pollution.

Formaldehyde emissions are commonly associated with the burning of natural gas, and compressors release huge amounts of this hazardous air pollutant. The negative effects of airborne formaldehyde occur at very low levels. Exposure to as little as 0.1 to 2 parts per million causes irritation of the eyes, nose and throat. At 5 to 10 ppm, people experience cough, tightness of the chest and eye damage. At 20 ppm breathing becomes difficult, at 30 ppm there is severe injury to the lungs and 100 ppm is immediately dangerous to life.

**Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League**

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# *We don't want your pipeline!*

The lateral segment of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline—extending 75 miles from Northampton County, North Carolina to Chesapeake County, Virginia—reveals an unacknowledged aspect of the project: the export of natural gas from West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina via ocean-going ships to ports around the world. A liquefied natural gas terminal is a foreseeable outcome of the proposed pipelines extending across



three states pointing like an arrow to the seaports at Hampton Roads, Virginia.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, global impacts of the pipeline project must be accounted for by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The law specifically requires the Commission to “recognize the worldwide...environmental problems” of its actions. We believe that the best course for the Commission would be to

recommend the “no action alternative,” and deny the “certificate of convenience and public necessity” sought by Dominion Transmission, Inc.

The full name of the project is: “Supply Header Project” Dominion Transmission, Inc. and Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC.

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO**

Write a brief letter to the United States Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and tell them why you oppose the pipeline. Ask to be put on the mailing list. Send your letter to the Secretary of the Commission. Include the Docket number: PF15-5-000 and PF15-6-000. Send your letter to the address at right.

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory  
Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

Talk to your neighbors, family and friends about the pipeline. Call a meeting of those who have questions about what to do.

Post “NO TRESPASSING” signs on your property.

***Contact Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League to find out more.***

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