



POTOMAC APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB

118 PARK STREET SE, VIENNA VA. 22180

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December 21, 2016

The Honorable Kimberly D. Bose
Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First St. N.E. Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Comments on Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline
Docket No. CP16-10-000

Dear Secretary Bose:

I am writing on behalf of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Inc. to provide our comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) project.

The Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit formed in 1927 to build and maintain the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (ANST) in southern Pennsylvania, Maryland, West Virginia, and Virginia. PATC is one of 31 clubs that preserve the ANST and its side-trails in cooperation with the Appalachian Trail Conservancy and the Appalachian Trail Park of the National Park System.

PATC is alarmed by the suggested dismissal of the Forest Management Plan process for this and all future such projects. We view this as a threat to all groups concerned about forest health and non-commercial forest users.

PATC will cooperate with coalitions of aligned groups and use our donor network and the considerable intellectual and professional capabilities of our 7,700 members to maintain the protections for the forest for which we have worked so hard.

PATC fully supports the position and concerns of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy about the MVP DEIS, submitted by Ron Tipton. PATC also fully supports the concerns of the U.S. Forest Service concerning the Proposed Crossing of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail submitted on March 9, 2016 by Mr. Joby B. Timm, Forest Supervisor of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests.

PATC expects the developer to use existing technology to bore the needed access under the established Appalachian Trail Corridor rather than to disturb the forest with cut and fill construction.

PATC understands the benefits of infrastructure such as pipelines. However, projects such as the Mountain Valley Pipeline must not void existing and long standing working management processes or destroy protected areas when it can easily be avoided.

PATC strongly believes that FERC should either withdraw this DEIS until it is ready for further public comment or offer a supplemental DEIS that addresses our concerns over the impacts to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "W".

Don White
President

Cc:

Ms. Wendy Jansenn
Appalachian National Scenic Trail Park Superintendent
National Park Service

Mr. Mike Caldwell
Northeast Regional Director
National Park Service

Mr. Job Timm
Forest Supervisor
George Washington and Jefferson National Forests

Mr. Clyde Thompson
Forest Supervisor
Monongahela National Forest

Mr. Tony Tooke
Regional Forester
USFS Region 8

Ms. Jennifer Adams
Special Projects Coordinator
George Washington and Jefferson National Forests

Ms. Karen Mouritsen
Eastern States Director
Bureau of Land Management

Ms. Karen Overcash
Forest Environmental Coordinator
George Washington and Jefferson National Forest

Mr. Ron Tipton
Executive Director
Appalachian Trail Conservancy

Mr. Ronald S. Rosen
Chair, Mid-Atlantic Regional Partnership Committee
Appalachian Trail Conservancy