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Organization:
Title:
Comments: USDA Forest Service

Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project draft decision and objection filing:

I was unable to connect with the website you provided and am hoping that this will be counted among the objections filed.

I will simply list my strongest objections to the pipeline project:

1) water pollution

2) Karst

3) steep terrain

4) Appalachian Trail

5) no value to Virginia

6) limited permanent jobs for Virginians

7) no matter what you claim, once the territory has been tom to shreds it can never be returned "exactly as it was"' as I heard it claimed recently on NPR by a spokesman for the engineering firm involved.

I do wonder if any of your various engineers have actually walked the entire proposed line., and by that I mean actually walked, not watched a drone do it for you. If you tried to follow the proposed route you would soon understand why forest fighters tend, for the most part, to let nature take its course rather than struggle with the elements. You would also learn why hikers on the AT proclaim the Blue Ridge section to be one of the most challenging.--it is steep, it is rugged, it is unstable.

And speaking of the AT. Crossing and/or paralleling this trail that is used by thousands of hikers from around the world would totally destroy their enjoyment and could , in the long term, cost Virginia in the loss of tourist dollars. A 150ft. R.O.W. across Virginia is an eyesore and once erosion begins it becomes a permanent blight!

The karst element has been born out in our area as recently as 3 weeks ago when another sink hole opened up along l-81. This is historically a common event in the Valley and should raise many warning flags to anyone even contemplating such a vast project of destruction to the land. Consider as well the possibility of a gas leak into the caves that underlie this whole Valley.

Any time you mess with the natural flow of water you chance changing the most vital element to humanity. Springs become polluted, creeks dry up, water containing chemicals from drilling or possible spills will flow into wells and water systems for miles. And it could be years before anyone notices or realizes the source. By then the damage has been done and can never be remedied.

And finally, the is absolutely no value whatsoever to Virginia for this destruction. Virginia will not gain one cubic foot of the gas flowingstraight across its wilQ=.ess..an.d..farmland. And there will not be enough Permanent jobs

at the end of the day to provide restitution for the loss of land and way of life for the residents of the Shenandoah Valley.

The Shenandoah Valley is a peaceful, beautiful land and the Blue Ridge Mountains not only provide recreation for local residents and tourists, but shelter for our abundant wildlife. It is beyond comprehension that there are those in our midst willing to forfeit all that makes this Valley beautiful for the sake of a commodity rapidly losing its value and importance, for the sake of the few who will benefit but briefly leaving us with a permanently altered environment.

With deep concerns,

Martha Cempe

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