

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/1/2017 8:06:40 PM

First name: George

Last name: Neall

Organization:

Title: Retired Professional Engineer

Comments: Atlantic Coast Pipeline Decision Objection

I am a retired mining engineer (B.S.; M.S.; P.E.) and own property adjoining the George Washington National Forest (GWNF) in Rockingham County. Two of the reasons we purchased our property were that it adjoined the GWNF and it has a pristine (drink-right-out-of) stream flowing down the mountain behind our house. Water is our most precious resource and should not take second fiddle to the production of hydrocarbons, which are depletable resources. See the additional comments in the email below.

During my professional career I have been an AWS Certified Welding Inspector and an ASQ Certified Quality Auditor. I know the types of problems that can, and do, occur with welding and construction projects. I know the problems caused by unexpected geological conditions. I have seen the results of poorly implemented erosion and sediment control plans. Regulations governing pipelines are "minimum requirements" and certainly not best management practices.

I have been involved in remote sensing and its relationship to physical geology. Geology can change within just a few feet. Much of the proposed pipeline will cross karst areas, which represent significant and unique geological risks to pipelines. Much of the pipeline will traverse extremely steep mountainous terrain, unstable slopes, and areas affected by geologic faults.

The construction of this pipeline would result in the disturbance of almost 10,000 acres of land and the destruction of approximately 4 million trees, many that are old growth. It would adversely impact hundreds of streams and watersheds, sully their water with soil eroding from the disturbed areas. The proposed pipeline will not enhance any of the land that it crosses and will adversely affect outdoor recreational use of the land. Maintenance of the pipeline will result in continued damage to the environment by the spraying of herbicides.

I urge you to prohibit passage of the ACP through the GWNF and JNF.

Sincerely,

George M. Neall III

540-896-2345

Begin forwarded message:

From: "George M. Neall III" <gltkjda@hotmail.com>

Subject: ACP

Date: September 14, 2016 at 5:13:12 PM EDT

To: <comments-southern-georgewashington-jefferson@fs.fed.us>

Cc: Virginia Wilderness Committee <jmwatson2@vcu.edu>, Charles Shelton <crshelton@lumos.net>, Misty Boos <misty@wildvirginia.org>, Sierra Club <ralph.grove@gmail.com>, Kirk Bowers <kirk.bowers@sierraclub.org>, "Chris Bolgiano" <bolgiace@jmu.edu>, Janet Gillies <gillies@hardynet.com>, "Lisa Forman Neall" <lisadna4n6@aol.com>, Brian Murphy <brian.murphy.va@gmail.com>, Nancy Sorrells <lotswife@comcast.net>, Friends of Nelson <friendsofnelson@gmail.com>, Bill Limpert <wflimpert@gmail.com>

During one of the GWNF meetings in Baker, WV (prior to releasing its proposed 10-year plan), the USFS presenter stated "water is one of the most important products of the GWNF". During the question and answer segment, I asked what THE most important product was. Without hesitation, the presenter answered "water".

My wife and I own land that abuts the GWNF in Virginia. I can attest that the most valuable product of the forest is water. Our farm is blessed with pristine, spring-fed, water that originates in forested mountain land. With proper care and stewardship, water is a sustainable resource. Natural gas is not a sustainable resource and the production of fracked natural gas is particularly harmful to our environment.

Why should the GWNF's most valuable product, water, be jeopardized by the installation of the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline? Installation and operation of the pipeline will not enhance the water quality from the GWNF. It will adversely affect the quality, however, due to increased sedimentation and erosion. Installation of the pipeline would further legitimize expansion of fracking in the Marcellus and other deep shale formations. This would have serious consequences to surface and ground water resources, air quality, and the health of residents in the vicinity of fracking operations.

The pipeline is not needed. The sole purpose of the pipeline is to generate profits for Dominion Resources. It is not benefitting the people whose lands it would cross. And it would definitely not benefit the GWNF: On the contrary, it would harm the GWNF. Why risk harming a sustainable resource, one that is an absolute necessity for life, for a few years of natural gas production?

I urge you to prohibit the pipeline from passing through the GWNF and to protect the GWNF's most valuable product, water.

Sincerely,

George M. Neall III

Retired Professional Engineer