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Comments: Defend the Forest Plan!

The George Washington/Jefferson National Forest plan took 15 years to develop, with years of expert research, public input, and with great care taken by the Forest Service stewards of all of the national resources owned by the citizens of the United States.

There is a reason and a value for each portion of the George Washington/Jefferson comprehensive forest plan, and each waiver requested for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline is an injury to the whole system. I oppose those waivers.

The GW/Jeff is our savings account for clean water and air for the entire mid-Atlantic. It's also an insurance policy for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and climate moderation, with our only dark skies, our largest roadless area east of the Mississippi. The proposed pipeline project is asking for a blank check withdrawal from this national trust - spending not just the interest, but the capital, and even putting us into more carbon debt with the continued burning of more fossil fuels. And the Forest Service is the trusted banker in charge.

If we as a nation had worked as carefully on an energy plan as you have on the forest plan, and guarded the valuable resources of air, water and forests as much as some covet the natural gas export contracts, we would be developing solar and wind power, using geothermal power, and actually conserving. Our current pipelines and easements could be upgraded to carry the supplemental natural gas for quick start backup systems. This pipeline is a rush job to get the most money for fracked gas with no risk/benefit assessment. This is a matter of national security.

Stand in the doorway! Please do not waiver from your well-researched plan!

Thank You,

Sandy Greene

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