



ABRA Update #102 – October 21, 2016

Pipeline Summit Three Weeks Away

The November 12 Pipeline Summit at Natural Bridge Hotel and Conference Center is fast approaching. This very important meeting, co-sponsored by the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance (ABRA) and the Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights (POWHR) coalition, will provide a unique opportunity to catch up with the latest developments in the fight against the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline and to spend quality time exchanging ideas and strategies with other attendees from West Virginia, North Carolina and Virginia who are engaged in the battle against these unneeded projects.

REGISTER NOW by clicking [here](#)

Jane Kleeb, founder of Bold Alliance and the leader in the successful fight to defeat the Keystone XL Pipeline will be one of the featured speakers. Jane spoke at the first Pipeline Summit in April and has returned to the area to assist our fight against the ACP and MVP.



Here's a rundown of agenda highlights for the November 12 Pipeline Summit:

- 9 am** Registration opens and coffee available
- 10 am** ACP and MVP: where we are, where we're headed - A review of the current issues, status and outlook for the MVP and ACP.
 - The Policy Landscape After November 8 – A discussion of how the November 8 elections results will impact public policy decisions affecting pipeline issues.
 - The need for property rights reform – An exploration of property rights threats posed by the eminent domain power granted by FERC to pipeline companies and the recent challenge to environmental easements.
- 12:15 pm** Lunch
- 1:15 pm** Remarks by Jane Kleeb

Keep on top of new developments. Visit and like us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/abralliance/?ref=aymt_homepage_panel

For questions about Update items, contact:

Articles – Lew Freeman, lewfreeman@gmail.com

In the News – Dan Shaffer, dshaffer@abralliance.org

1:45 pm Breakout Sessions

- Why new pipelines are unnecessary
- Improving effectiveness in coalition and grassroots work
- Water Resource and Geohazard Issues
- FERC's DEIS Process

2:45 pm Troubled Waters – video presentation from Voices From Bath**3 pm** Breakout group reports and wrap-up comments (adjourn by 4 pm)**VOF Schedules Consideration of MVP and ACP Conversion Applications**

The Virginia Outdoors Foundation has asked Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) and Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) developers to present applications for conversion of open space land under the Open Space Land Act at its February 9, 2017 board meeting if the current alignments and project schedules remain unchanged.

Upon consideration, it was decided that the February meeting is the appropriate time to hear the applications because the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has already issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the MVP and expects to issue a DEIS for the ACP as early as December. The full VOF announcement is [here](#). (See related story below.)

Pew Research Releases New Study of Climate Change Attitudes

Political fissures on climate issues extend far beyond beliefs about whether climate change is occurring and whether humans are playing a role, according to a new, [in-depth survey by Pew Research Center](#). These divisions reach across every dimension of the climate debate, down to people's basic trust in the motivations that drive climate scientists to conduct their research.

Specifically, the survey finds wide political divides in views of the potential for devastation to the Earth's ecosystems and what might be done to address any climate impacts. There are also major divides in the way partisans interpret the current scientific discussion over climate, with the political left and right having vastly divergent perceptions of modern scientific consensus, differing levels of trust in the information they get from professional researchers, and different views as to whether it is the quest for knowledge or the quest for professional advancement that drives climate scientists in their work.

Among highlights in the report:

- Seven-in-ten liberal Democrats (70%) trust climate scientists' a lot to give full and accurate information about the causes of climate change, compared with just 15% of conservative Republicans.
- The credibility of climate research is also closely tied with Americans' political views. Some 55% of liberal Democrats say climate research reflects the best available evidence most of the time, 39% say some of the time. By contrast, 9% of conservative Republicans say this occurs most of the time, 54% say it occurs some of the time.
- On the flip side, conservative Republicans are more inclined to say climate research findings are influenced by scientists' desire to advance their careers (57%) or their own political leanings (54%) most of the time. Small minorities of liberal Democrats say either influence occurs most of the time (16% and 11%, respectively).

In the News:

Local/Atlantic Coast Pipeline

Landowner: ‘Dominion would just dig us up and throw us out’

- Recorder – 10/20/16
http://www.abralliance.org/wpcontent/uploads/2016/10/Dominion_would_just_dig_us_up_and_throw_us_out-Recorder_20161020.pdf
Let's not let Dominion divide and (more completely) conquer Virginia

Citizens oppose massive gas compressor for pipeline in Buckingham County

- Augusta Free Press – 10/15/16
<http://augustafreepress.com/citizens-oppose-massive-gas-compressor-pipeline-buckingham-county/>
Opposition continues to fight in Buckingham while the BOS mulls Special Use Permit
Related:
- <http://wmra.org/post/proposed-compressor-station-buckingham-ignites-opposition>

Let's work together to prevent the new pipeline

- The Virginian—Pilot – 10/16/16
http://pilotonline.com/opinion/columnist/guest/lewis-freeman-let-s-work-together-to-prevent-the-new/article_90d4e67b-4521-5642-b9f3-0cb81e2e9c91.html
Let's not let Dominion divide and (more completely) conquer Virginia

US pipeline fighters unite at Augusta corn harvest

- News Leader – 10/14/16
<http://www.newsleader.com/story/news/2016/10/14/us-pipeline-fighters-unite-augusta-corn-harvest/92045800/>
“Seeds of Resistance” bearing fruit
Related:
- http://www.dailyprogress.com/newsvirginian/news/state/corn-protesting-atlantic-coast-pipeline-harvested/article_6a294ec2-927c-11e6-b962-3ff2aeaa04eb.html
- <http://www.whsv.com/content/news/Sacred-corn-grown-in-protest-of-Atlantic-Coast-Pipeline-397121511.html>

SELC challenges Atlantic Coast Pipeline route

- Southern Environmental Law Center – 10/13/16
<https://www.southernenvironment.org/news-and-press/news-feed/selc-challenges-atlantic-coast-pipeline-route>
Conservation easement proposal undermines conservation efforts statewide
Related:
- <http://www.whsv.com/content/news/Atlantic-Coast-Pipeline-route-challenged-397015191.html>
- <http://augustafreepress.com/selc-files-challenge-atlantic-coast-pipeline-route/>

Dominion touts new poll results

- News Leader – 10/19/16
<http://www.newsleader.com/story/news/2016/10/19/dominion-touts-new-poll-results/92412590/>
“Republican strategic research firm” produces polling question that results in positive spin for ACP
Related:
- <http://augustafreepress.com/poll-virginia-voters-back-atlantic-coast-pipeline-kinda-sorta/>

Regional/Mountain Valley Pipeline, other

Pipeline foes seek revised draft environmental impact statement for Mountain Valley Pipeline

- Roanoke Times – 10/19/16
http://www.roanoke.com/business/pipeline-foes-seek-revised-draft-environmental-impact-statement-for-mountain/article_3c052749-515d-51be-82c5-eb0e3b5b43b0.html

Mountain Valley Pipeline opposition harvests 'Seeds of Resistance'

- WDBJ7 News – 10/16/16
<http://www.wdbj7.com/content/news/Mountain-Valley-Pipeline-opposition-harvests-Seeds-of-Resistance-397259491.html>
"Seeds of Resistance" proving prolific

Roanoke County police will not defy state law allowing pipeline surveying without permission

- Martinsville Bulletin – 10/19/16
http://www.martinsvillebulletin.com/business/roanoke-county-police-will-not-defy-state-law-allowing-pipeline/article_99fb2ba0-7f11-591c-b3d2-014eb931097d.html
Local police try to keep the peace...nobody happy
Related:
- http://www.roanoke.com/business/bent-mountain-property-owners-seek-injunction-to-bar-surveying/article_e606fe1d-22f5-5620-8dc0-1781c4936cb6.html

Franklin County votes against Mountain Valley Pipeline easement

- Roanoke Times – 10/18/16
http://www.roanoke.com/news/local/franklin_county/franklin-county-votes-against-mountain-valley-pipeline-easement/article_c728fd20-a955-507b-9850-d9663f51bddd.html
Franklin BOS votes "No", saying there is no reason to sell easement unless the project is approved

Roanoke Gas proposes tap in Montgomery County for Mountain Valley Pipeline

- Roanoke Times – 10/17/16
http://www.roanoke.com/business/roanoke-gas-proposes-tap-in-montgomery-county-for-mountain-valley/article_b9a703d9-ofe9-5367-9dc8-99027352514f.html

Big Picture:

EPA blasts FERC reviews, seeks 'definitive resolution'

- E&E Publishing – 10/13/16
<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060044234>
EPA challenges FERC's "limited review" of indirect greenhouse gas emissions resulting from Leach Xpress

Not In My Backyard: The Consequences Of Dakota Access Pipeline

- Seeking Alpha – 10/17/16
<http://seekingalpha.com/article/4012655-backyard-consequences-dakota-access-pipeline>
Who says all of the "consequences" will be negative?

Appalachia, Montney NatGas Projects to Western Canada Signal One Outcome: Big Glut

- Natural Gas Intelligence – 10/13/16
http://www.abralliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/NGI_Big_Glut_20161013.pdf
This is about Canada...but read it closely...the same scenario is occurring here

Enviros fear natural gas loophole in Clean Power Plan

- E&E Publishing – 10/17/16
<http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060044319>
Rate-based compliance with CPP could significantly *increase* emissions (and return-generating infrastructure)

Pennsylvania Ruling on Eminent Domain Puts Contentious Pipeline Project on Alert

- Inside Climate News – 10/18/16
<https://insideclimatenews.org/news/12102016/pennsylvania-ruling-eminent-domain-natural-gas-pipeline-project-mariner-east-sunoco-fracking>
States are beginning to strike down eminent domain provisions for natural gas projects...in this case, storage

WIKILEAKS: Clinton Takes ‘A Public And A Private Position’ On Pipelines

- The Daily Caller – 10/18/16

<http://dailycaller.com/2016/10/18/wikileaks-clinton-takes-a-public-and-a-private-position-on-pipelines/>

Clinton’s lack of clarity on pipelines and related issues may cost her trade union support

The West Is Burning, And Climate Change Is Partly To Blame

- Five Thirty Eight – 10/18/16

<http://fivethirtyeight.com/features/the-west-is-burning-and-climate-change-is-partly-to-blame/>

Climate change making forests full of fuel far drier

New study to characterize methane emissions from natural gas compressor stations

- Colorado State University SOURCE – 10/18/16

<http://source.colostate.edu/new-study-characterize-methane-emissions-natural-gas-compressor-stations/>

20% of inspected compressor stations showed methane leaks of more than 1% ...if similar leaks plague the station proposed for Buckingham, it would leak 15 million cubic feet per day.