

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY, VIRGINIA HELD ON THE 13th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2015 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE BOARD CHAMBERS, MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER, 755 ROANOKE STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA:

R-FY-16-26
RESOLUTION REQUESTING GOVERNOR TO REQUIRE
DEQ TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE PLAN REVIEW AND CONSTRUCTION
OVERSIGHT OF THE MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE PROJECT
TO PROTECT SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER RESOURCES

On a motion by Mary W. Biggs, seconded by M. Todd King and carried unanimously,

WHEREAS, Pending before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) project, which is proposed to traverse Montgomery County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Section 62.1-44.15:55 of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, provides that project specific Erosion and Sediment Control Plans are not required for the construction of linear projects such as interstate gas pipelines, provided the pipeline company files annually with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) general erosion and sediment control plans and specifications; and

WHEREAS, The required amount of land disturbance associated with the MVP project excavation is more than twice the area of all land disturbing activities in a typical year in Montgomery County, and has the potential to cause severe erosion in the County's mountainous terrain; and

WHEREAS, The MVP project is proposed to traverse through highly erodible soils with very steep slopes in Montgomery County, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, Sedimentation caused by accelerated erosion from land-disturbing activities during construction is a significant contributor to pollution of the surface waters of Virginia and the United States; and

WHEREAS, Many Montgomery County citizens rely on untreated groundwater from wells or springs for their domestic water supplies; and

WHEREAS, Karst topography, sinkholes and underground channels capable of carrying sediment and other pollutants are widespread in some areas of the County where the pipeline's construction has been proposed to occur; and

WHEREAS, Without very careful engineering and construction oversight, erosion and sediment from the construction of the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline could have severe negative consequences for the County's lakes, streams, and rivers, as well as its domestic, agricultural and business water supplies; and

WHEREAS, DEQ has publicly stated that it does not have sufficient resources to provide adequate oversight to linear construction projects, including pipeline projects such as the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia, that the Board in consideration of the points made above hereby requests as follows:

1. That the Governor of Virginia provide adequate direction and resources to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to execute its role laid out in the Code of Virginia (§62.1-44.15:55(D)) to adequately oversee and manage the land disturbing activities and stormwater management from the beginning of construction of the Mountain Valley Pipeline project, through such time the gas pipeline is abandoned, including reviewing plans, conducting inspections, enforcing regulations, and when appropriate, reviewing the project specific plans for the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline; and
2. That the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality require Erosion and Sediment Control standards and specifications and Stormwater Management Plans for the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline project that meet all Virginia standards, and that these plans be made available to the public prior to FERC project approval and construction; and
3. That prior to construction, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality require Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC officials and third-party inspectors to meet with the County Director of Engineering and Regulatory Compliance or his designee to discuss the implementation of the Erosion and Sediment Control standards and specifications and Stormwater Management Plans for the portion of the MVP project that traverses through Montgomery County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Montgomery, Virginia hereby directs the County Administrator to transmit this resolution to the Honorable Terry McAuliffe, Governor of Virginia, with copies to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for inclusion in pre-filing Docket Number PF-15-3-00, Virginia Secretary of Natural Resources Molly Ward, and Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Director David Paylor.

The vote on the forgoing resolution was as follows:

AYE

Gary D. Creed

M. Todd King

Mary W. Biggs

Christopher A. Tuck

Matthew R. Gabriele

William H. Brown


NAY

None

ABSENT

Annette S. Perkins

ATTEST:


F. Craig Meadows
County Administrator

Document Content(s)

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