



## Our project newsletter to stakeholders

We are pleased to provide you with the third newsletter for the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) as part of our effort to maintain communication with stakeholders throughout the filing process.

### MVP's formal filing with the FERC

On October 23, 2015, Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC formally filed an application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for approval to construct, own, and operate a 301-mile interstate natural gas transmission pipeline, known as the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP). The application requesting FERC

certification of public convenience and necessity of the pipeline was received and the MVP project was issued Docket Number CP16-10 on November 5, 2015. The FERC, along with several cooperating agencies, will conduct a comprehensive review and evaluation of a number of focuses, including public safety; water resources; karst topography; air quality; wildlife, soils, and vegetation; protected species; cultural and historic resources; sound levels; alternatives; and cumulative economic benefits.

The application is a compilation of information gathered before and during the FERC pre-filing process, which began on October 31, 2014. Documents in this collection include research from environmental, geological, and economic studies conducted by the MVP project team and outside experts, as well as important intelligence gathered through discussions with landowners, elected officials, agencies, and other stakeholders along the proposed route. Specific designs and locations of facilities, supply, market, and rate data, as well as construction and budget information were also an integral part of the formal application.

### The formal application was filed . . . what's next?

Now that MVP has filed its formal application, there have been questions as to what the next step in the process to construction might be. The FERC is set to review the submitted application and will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which we anticipate being issued in late spring 2016. After the DEIS is issued, the FERC will hold public comment meetings on the statement, after which they

will assess the comments and begin drafting a Final EIS (FEIS). The current project schedule is targeting summer or fall 2016 for issuance of the FEIS. After additional review of the FEIS, the FERC makes a decision whether the MVP project can proceed with construction by issuing an order and granting certification.

### Let's talk about the MVP route modifications

During the past year, the MVP team has conducted 16 open houses, as well as participated in six scoping meetings hosted by the FERC, with the purpose of encouraging an open discussion with community members, landowners, and public agencies. Throughout the course of these public meetings, the MVP project team was made aware of community concerns associated with the location of the pipeline. In an effort to mitigate concerns, the team has made several minor adjustments to the proposed route, most of which focus on the protection of streams, wetlands, and cultural resources, and also the avoidance of various sensitive areas and karst topography regions. Notable adjustments include, but are not limited to:

- Reduction in permanent right-of-way width from 75' to 50'
- Avoidance of the Spring Hollow Reservoir and Camp Roanoke areas
- Alteration to the Blue Ridge Parkway crossing in order to minimize vegetation clearing and long-term visual impact
- Avoidance of the Elk River Wildlife Management Area
- Avoidance of the Cahas Mountain Rural Historic District and the Town of Boones Mill's water source treatment plant
- Proposed number of compressor stations during construction reduced to three

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## Let's talk about the MVP route modifications

We value the information gathered from landowners, local residents, and elected officials during the public meetings; and the MVP project team has seriously considered these comments and concerns in developing alternative routes. As part of our commitment to communities, the MVP team has considered more than 1,000 miles of alternatives and variations to the proposed route in an effort to alleviate concerns posed by interested and informed stakeholders along the route.

*"Filing of the formal application is a milestone for MVP and we thank the many landowners, elected officials, and community members who have worked with us to design a proposed route that takes into account a multitude of individual requests and environmental considerations,"* stated Randy Crawford, chief operating officer, EQT Midstream Partners, LP. *"Since the Project's inception, we have been committed to listening, learning, and continuing an open dialogue. We will preserve this same attention to detail as the Project progresses; and we will maintain our diligent focus on building a world-class pipeline."*

## Safety Tips for Winter Travel

Safety is a top priority for MVP and as the winter months approach, we want to help keep our communities safe as they prepare for seasonal travel. Road trips during the holidays and routine daily commutes can become hazardous when the temperatures turn colder and the snow begins to fly. Checking the forecast before heading out on the road can be vital to ensuring safe travels; make sure to observe current conditions and anticipate quick changes in the weather.

### Safety check your car before leaving

Always perform a quick safety check on your car before leaving your driveway. Examine tire pressure, test the brakes, and make sure the heater is working properly. If snow has fallen, make sure to brush the snow off your car and defrost your windows before driving to ensure maximum visibility.

## MVP and Roanoke Gas partner to deliver natural gas to Virginia communities

On October 1, 2015, Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC and RGC Midstream, LLC announced their intent to deliver natural gas to several Virginia communities along the proposed MVP route. As part of the agreement, RGC Midstream, LLC, a subsidiary of RGC Resources, Inc., will acquire a 1% ownership interest in Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC; and Roanoke Gas Company will become a shipper on the pipeline in order to supply and expand its southwest Virginia customer base.

*"RGC Midstream's agreement with Mountain Valley Pipeline addresses the growing demand for natural gas in our region and enhances the reliability of our Roanoke Gas system,"* said John D'Orazio, president and chief executive officer, RGC Resources. *"Strengthening our natural gas supply and bringing access to unserved communities is essential for continued progress in southwest Virginia. It will increase the opportunity for economic growth in our region through a combination of industrial expansions, job creation, and new investments."*

*"This agreement further reinforces our commitment to provide safe, reliable, clean-burning natural gas to communities along the MVP route and we are thrilled to have RGC Midstream as a regional partner,"* said Randy Crawford, chief operating officer, EQT Midstream Partners. *"Roanoke Gas has been proudly serving its customers across southwest Virginia for more than 130 years; and having access to one of the country's lowest-cost energy resources will stimulate economic development through new employment and manufacturing opportunities, and also provide a source of additional tax revenues."*

With its connection to EQT Midstream Partners' existing Equitrans system in West Virginia, the MVP is specifically designed to address infrastructure constraints associated with the rapid development of natural gas from the Marcellus and Utica shale plays, while more importantly offering critical supply diversity to meet the increasing demand for natural gas across the mid-Atlantic and Southeast, and communities in Virginia.

## Providing support for the Mountain Valley Pipeline



During the past year, there has been a lot of talk about the MVP project throughout West Virginia and Virginia. Many landowners, community members, and elected officials have expressed both concerns and support for the pipeline through personal meetings, phone call, emails, and letters to the editor in many publications. In the natural gas industry, the negative stories are often the ones we hear the most, while the positive stories fall by the wayside. The pipeline will bring economic benefits to West Virginia and Virginia; therefore, bringing benefits to the communities located along the route as well.

There are many officials and community leaders that support the MVP project – and we invite you to take a moment to read a few of MVP's prior affirmations of support:

### Joyce Waugh, President, Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce (10/1/2015)

*"The Roanoke Regional Chamber supports the continued development of infrastructure that is integral to business expansion in our region. Our prosperity depends on the presence of robust transportation – education – recreation – healthcare – telecommunication – and energy infrastructure. With these building blocks in place, our economy and our quality of life are given great opportunities for growth. As a result of this philosophy, the Roanoke Regional Chamber supports the Mountain Valley Pipeline project and strongly encourages its development in accordance with laws and regulations of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia; in cooperation with property owners; with the utmost safety; and with respect for the environment and our region's beauty."*

### West Virginia Governor Earl Ray Tomblin (10/7/2014)

*"West Virginia continues to be one of our nation's energy leaders, and the Mountain Valley Pipeline will help create new construction jobs for our workforce and identify markets for our state's abundant supply of natural gas. We appreciate EQT's continued investments in our state and their willingness to work with local economic developers to provide natural gas service in areas that would benefit from both new industry and downstream growth. These investments have the potential to create good-paying jobs and by keeping key byproducts in our state, we have the opportunity to rejuvenate our manufacturing sector and create promising opportunities for future generations."*

### Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe (10/7/2014)

*"In order to compete globally to attract businesses and create jobs, Virginia must have world-class energy infrastructure that provides abundant access to low-cost energy sources. New natural gas pipelines, like the Mountain Valley Pipeline, will diversify our energy mix, reduce our Commonwealth's carbon emissions, and help build a new Virginia economy."*

### Steve Roberts, President of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce (10/1/2015)

*"Having access to a reliable, cost-efficient source of natural gas is essential for growth and progress in any region of the United States. Over the long-term, the Mountain Valley Pipeline project will not only generate significant tax revenues for counties to fund local schools, roads and other important priorities of county government; but it will also serve as a magnet for manufacturers and other economic development opportunities for our various West Virginia communities along the route."*

Happy Holidays



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## *Your feedback is important*

- In order to access our project filings and leave comments, please visit the FERC website at:
  - » [http://elibrary/ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary/ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp)
  - » Reference the docket number CP16-10-000
- Contact Mountain Valley Pipeline
  - » [www.mountainvalleypipeline.info](http://www.mountainvalleypipeline.info)
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