

From: [Douglas, Barbara](#)
To: [Tiernan Lennon](#)
Subject: Fwd: FERC Consultation for FAST-41_Mountain Valley and Equitrans Expansion Project
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2016 9:19:35 AM

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Troy Andersen** <troy_andersen@fws.gov>
Date: Wed, Nov 16, 2016 at 2:17 PM
Subject: RE: FERC Consultation for FAST-41_Mountain Valley and Equitrans Expansion Project
To: Nicholas Tackett <Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov>
Cc: John Schmidt <john_schmidt@fws.gov>, Barbara Douglas <barbara_douglas@fws.gov>, Cindy Schulz <cindy_schulz@fws.gov>

Mr. Tackett:

I just reviewed this one and while the project involves coordination with two U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field offices (Virginia and West Virginia), there is only one entry in the permitting timetable. I don't necessarily see the need to have multiple entries like in the previously reviewed Atlantic Coast Pipeline plan but I'll defer to your expertise on how specific these plans are supposed to be. We request that the Permitting Timetable included as an appendix in the Coordinated Project Plan be edited as follows:

- The "Final Completion Date" included for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be left blank. A footnote can be added for clarification that states: "Once FERC has initiated formal consultation and provided all relevant data required by 50 CFR 402.14(c), section 7 implementing regulations (50 CFR 402.14) allow the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service up to 90 days to conclude formal consultation and an additional 45 days to prepare the biological opinion, unless we mutually agree to an extension."

Thanks,
Troy



Endangered Species/Conservation Planning Assistance Supervisor

USFWS - Virginia Field Office

Phone: 804-824-2428

Visit us at: <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/virginiafield/>

From: Nicholas Tackett [mailto:Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov]

Sent: Monday, November 07, 2016 8:40 AM

To: troy_andersen@fws.gov

Subject: FW: FERC Consultation for FAST-41_Mountain Valley and Equitrans Expansion Project

Hello,

I am attempting to conduct interagency consultation with respect to the issues discussed in the email below, and received an error response for the following email address: mary_morrison@fws.gov. The review at issue involves ESA section 7 consultation in Virginia for the Mountain Valley Project (FERC Docket No. CP16-10-000). If this issue does not fall under your direct responsibilities, can you please forward this message to the appropriate entity or provide me with an alternative contact at your agency?

Thanks for your assistance,

Nick

Nicholas Tackett

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

888 1st Street NE | Washington, DC 20426

202-502-6783 | nicholas.tackett@ferc.gov

From: Nicholas Tackett

Sent: Friday, November 04, 2016 2:34 PM

To: 'jenniferpadams@fs.fed.us'; 'Christopher.L.Carson@usace.army.mil'; 'todd.m.miller@usace.army.mil';

'Karen.a.kochenbach@usace.army.mil'; 'blair.aaronM@epa.gov'; 'McCurdy.Alaina@epa.gov';
'vcraft@blm.gov'; 'mliberat@blm.gov'; 'mary_morrison@fws.gov'; 'john_schmidt@fws.gov'; 'USDOI-FWS-
PA -'; 'USDOI-NPS ANST-'; 'wendy_janssen@nps.gov'; 'mark_woods@nps.gov';
'herbert_young_jr@nps.gov'; 'USDOT-PHMSA -'; 'WV-SHPO -'; 'WV-DEP -'; 'WV-DNR -'; 'VA-SHPO -'; 'VA-
Dept of Game & Fisheries -'; 'VA-DEQ -'; 'PA- SHPO -'; 'PA – DEP -'; 'RA-epwater@pa.gov';
'meggerding@eqt.com'; 'Elizabeth_Klein@ios.doi.gov'; 'edward.e.belk.civ@mail.mil';
'lisa.mensah@osec.usda.gov'

Subject: FERC Consultation for FAST-41_Mountain Valley and Equitrans Expansion Project

To whom it may concern-

On December 4, 2015, the President signed into law the [Fixing America's Surface Transportation](#) (FAST) Act. Title 41 of the FAST Act (FAST-41) requires additional oversight and coordination of project reviews, with the goal of improving early consultation and coordination between government agencies. On September 22, 2016, the Executive Director of the Federal Infrastructure Permitting Improvement Steering Council [finalized](#) an inventory of projects covered by FAST-41. Included on that list is the *Mountain Valley and Equitrans Expansion Project* (Project).

In compliance with section 41003(c) of FAST-41, staff of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has drafted a Coordinated Project Plan and Permitting Timetable for the Project. FERC staff is now seeking consultation with cooperating and participating agencies on the attached Coordinated Project Plan and Permitting Timetable. Under FAST-41, a “participating agency” is an agency participating in an environmental review or authorization for a covered project. A “cooperating agency” is any agency with: (1) jurisdiction under federal law; or (2) special expertise with respect to an environmental issue. We are also seeking consultation with the project sponsor and relevant state resource agencies on the Permitting Timetable; and are seeking the concurrence of each cooperating agency on the Permitting Timetable.

FERC staff has identified you as a representative of a consulting entity, and is seeking feedback on the attached document by ***no later than the close of business on November 14, 2016***. Please submit any such feedback via email to Nicholas.Tackett@ferc.gov, and feel free to contact me with any procedural questions regarding the FAST-41 consultation process. FERC’s rules prohibit off-the-record communications regarding the merits of contested proceedings. See 18 C.F.R. § 385.2201.

Please forward this email, as needed, to agency representatives with decision-making authority on the applicable authorization or review being carried out by your agency. Absent a response from your agency, FERC staff must assume that this portion of FAST-41 consultation is complete and that you concur with the attached document; under such circumstances, we will use best-available

information to estimate completion dates for your review/authorization.

The President's Office of Management and Budget has requested that this Coordinated Project Plan and the associated Permitting Timetable be uploaded to max.gov and the [Permitting Dashboard](#), respectively, **by November 22, 2016**.

Thanks in advance for your attention to this matter, and again, if you have any questions, please contact me.

Nicholas Tackett
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 1st Street NE | Washington, DC 20426
202-502-6783 | nicholas.tackett@ferc.gov

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