

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline is Unjust, Costly, Risky, and a Terrible Deal for Utility Customers!

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) is a proposed 600 mile highly pressurized natural gas pipeline planned to go through WV, VA & eight eastern NC counties. The pipeline would enter NC in Northampton County, where a large compressor station would be built, and end in Robeson County, near Pembroke, with a likely extension to Hamlet. The cost of the project would be over \$7.5 billion, and **will be paid for mostly by utility customers-you and me!**

The ACP was approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), in October, 2017, ignoring extensive studies on lack of need for the pipeline and major impact. **It's important to continue to build public resistance to the pipeline to protect landowners, water, safety of nearby residents and environmental justice, and continuing legal action has caused major delays and increased skepticism about the ACP.**

The Atlantic Coast Pipeline would have major impacts on vulnerable communities in the impacted NC counties, including Northampton. The pipeline builders, Duke and Dominion affiliates, have spent \$\$millions on advertising and lobbying about the myth of potential jobs and economic development. **Parts of Garysburg are within a few hundred feet of the proposed ACP, and within a "blast zone" over 900 feet wide, if an explosion happened.**

Economic Impacts

Jobs are always presented as a big selling point for new pipeline projects, particularly in low income areas like eastern NC, yet studies show that investments in renewable energy and efficiency upgrades produce many more jobs. Once construction is complete, the ACP would only need 18 permanent jobs in NC. The economic development promised by Dominion and Duke Energy is extremely unlikely--only larger cities or very large industry could afford connection to the pipeline. 80% of the gas would go to Duke and Dominion's own unneeded power plants!

This pipeline would be built based on exaggerated estimates of demand from the main pipeline owners, Duke and Dominion. Likely to be underutilized, The ACP would be funded by increased charges to utility customers to give a profit up to 14% for pipeline owners., whether or not the pipeline is used!



Compressor Station: Noise and Toxic Emissions

Northampton County would be the site of a huge compressor station to move the gas 180 miles through NC. 24/7 noise levels would be high and toxic chemicals and particulates will be released to the air. In addition, areas just below the compressor station will be at higher pressure, so increased risk of leaks and explosions.

Pipeline is Disastrous for Climate

Natural gas (mostly methane) is vented from drilling sites, pipelines and compressor stations, and even gas power plants! Methane is 86 times as powerful a greenhouse gas as carbon dioxide (CO2) from burning fossil fuels. Hurricanes like Matthew and Florence, and extreme droughts, are types of major climate change impacts.

No New Gas Pipelines Needed to Meet Region's Needs! Rate Hikes We'll ALL pay...

Multiple independent studies have shown that gas supply is not even needed for the region the ACP would pass through! Some industry leaders have warned that too many pipelines are being planned for the amount of gas still underground. Existing pipelines and storage, with less costly upgrades and expansions, will be more than enough to meet the region's gas demand through at least 2030

The electric and gas customers of Duke, Dominion and Piedmont Natural gas will pay for the pipeline through rate hikes for all NC and VA customers.

Pipeline Impacts on Vulnerable Communities, Loss of Land Use and Value

Pipeline operations are highly profitable for corporate owners, but not for the people along the pipeline faced with poverty, low employment and poor health care. The proposed path of the ACP would cause disproportionate impacts on low income, African American and Native American residents near the pipeline. The ACP would cross eight NC counties, most with a higher than average African American population, and half with Native populations above the state average. 7 of 8 impacted counties have household incomes significantly below the state average.

Landowners along the pipeline corridor who depend on their land for retirement security and inheritance, or for agricultural uses, may lose land value, forest, control of land use and productivity while still paying taxes on it!



LATEST NEWS ON THE ACP!

On December 7, a court order disallowed the US Fish and Wildlife permit for the ACP as not protective of endangered species in several locations along the pipeline. A few days later, the court “vacated” a critical US Forest Service permit for the ACP to pass through national parks.

As a result, Dominion announced that they would voluntarily “stop” all new construction on the pipeline. However, ACP has continued construction under the guise of environmental “stabilization”, even as the pipeline route remains in question until judges decide whether or not to reinstate the tossed out permits in May.

Local Groups Opposing the ACP

Concerned Citizens of Northampton County
Belinda Joyner: [252-537-1078](tel:252-537-1078)

Halifax Concerned Stewards
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Nash Stop the Pipeline
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ACP Says “No Reason to Worry” about Pipeline Safety—Do You Believe Them?

Pipelines built since 2010 are **more likely to have serious accidents than pipelines built at any time since the 1940’s according to federal agency data.** This is due to the very rushed construction of the large number of pipelines approved by FERC in recent years, and inadequate inspections and oversight. **Accidents include major leaks, explosions and fires.** (photo left: Nov. 2015, Calif.)

The calculated “blast zone” for the ACP is over 900 feet either side of the pipeline, and there are 24 “High Consequence Areas”, or areas of 20 or more occupied buildings along the pipeline, including one in Northampton County. The ACP has been delayed for over a year, so it will be especially prone to construction flaws due to rushed construction.

Regional Groups Against the ACP

NC Environmental Justice Network
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Clean Water for NC Durham office
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Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League
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Statewide Alliance Opposing the ACP

FrackFreeNC Alliance
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