

## Our project newsletter to stakeholders

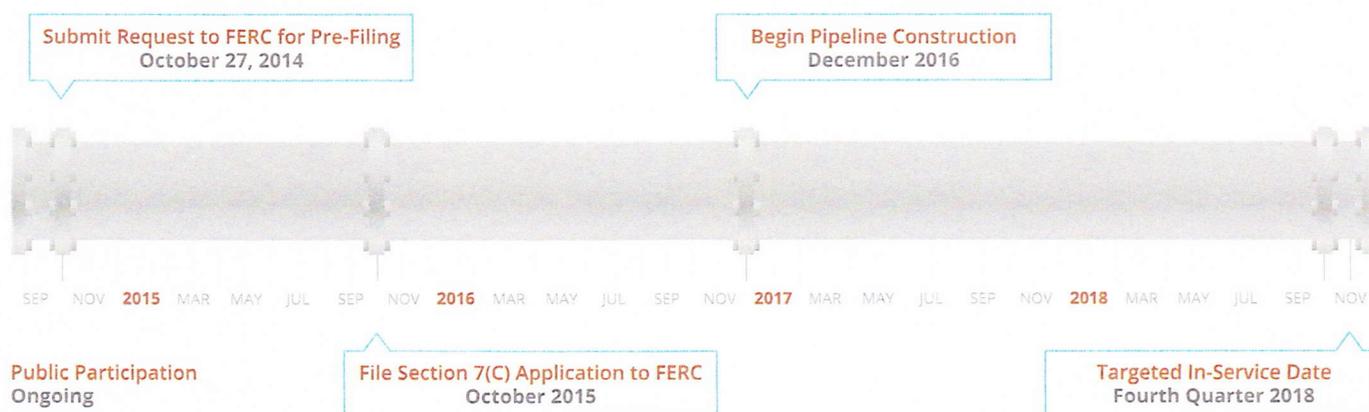
We are pleased to introduce the inaugural newsletter for the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP). In an effort to maintain communication with stakeholders throughout the process/project, we are going to be issuing this newsletter approximately 3-4 times per year. The newsletter will provide an update on where we are in the regulatory process, what stakeholders should expect in terms of next steps, and other relevant information on our project and the natural gas industry.

### Tell me about the FERC pre-filing . . .

On October 27, 2014, Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (MVP) submitted its pre-filing request to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to construct, own, and operate new interstate natural gas pipeline facilities and transport natural gas in interstate commerce. FERC issued docket number PF15-3 for the Mountain Valley Pipeline project.

The pre-filing request letter provided a description of the proposed MVP project, including maps of the proposed pipeline route, lists of permitting agencies, an overview of the public participation plan, and a proposed schedule of major project milestones. The FERC formally accepted Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC into its pre-filing process on October 31, 2014.

The intent of the pre-filing process is to conduct significant outreach to seek stakeholder input; conduct field surveys to identify cultural resources, wetlands, and endangered species; to address potential constructability issues; and to begin the permit application submission process with other relevant regulatory agencies. All of this work is aimed at resolving issues and submitting a more complete formal application with the FERC.



## Keeping an open dialogue with our landowners and communities

Prior to being accepted by the FERC into the pre-filing process, we have been hard at work talking with local officials, community members, and landowners throughout the 17 counties in which the proposed route and alternative routes traverse. Our outreach team has been conducting public presentations and meeting with elected officials since midway through 2014. In addition, we appreciate the communities joining us at one or more of our 14 open houses that we held during the months of December and January. Our team members welcomed the opportunity to engage with you and to listen to the issues and concerns you have related to the project. We are currently working to address those issues in our formal filings with the FERC.

Our most recent document to the FERC included several “alternative” routes that we were able to identify, in part, thanks to the feedback we received during our community open houses. While these alternative routes do not formally change the currently proposed route – they do provide options for further evaluation as we continue to design a route that is environmentally responsible, avoids sensitive areas, protects cultural resources, and minimizes the overall project footprint. These alternative route maps can be found on the Mountain Valley Pipeline website.

Our team of land agents continues to work with landowners along the proposed route, as well as the alternative routes, to obtain permission for survey access on their properties. To date, we have received more than 80% access permission from landowners; and in December, we began staking, or flagging, properties along the study corridor. As weather conditions improve during the next few months, surveying activity will once again ramp-up. These surveys are vital to providing details necessary to finalize a proposed route that results in the least impacts possible to landowners and the environment.

## Tell me about ‘scoping meetings’

The next step in the regulatory process is for the FERC to schedule an official scoping period and associated meetings. Scoping meetings are hosted by the FERC and are designed to help their staff identify relevant issues for major projects. These meetings also offer another opportunity for landowners and the public to provide detailed comments regarding the project. Scoping is the process of defining and refining the ‘scope’ of an environmental impact statement (EIS) and any alternatives needing investigation.

The FERC scoping meetings are open to the general public and are structured for people to make statements to the FERC staff about the project. In addition, the FERC staff describes the environmental review process, provides relevant information, and answers procedural questions.

The information gathered at scoping meetings helps us prepare environmental mitigation measures for its environmental resource reports required in its Certificate Application. In return, this information provides the FERC staff with the necessary resources to publish a more complete environmental document for public review.

We anticipate scoping to be in the April through June timeframe, with scoping meetings in early May. For more information on our project or to contact us:

- Access recent project filings on the FERC website at [http://elibrary/ferc.gov/idmws/docket\\_search.asp](http://elibrary/ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp) and use the docket number PF15-3
- Contact Mountain Valley Pipeline
  - » [www.mountainvalleypipeline.info](http://www.mountainvalleypipeline.info)
  - » Call us toll-free: 844-MVP-TALK
  - » Send us an email: [mail@mountainvalleypipeline.info](mailto:mail@mountainvalleypipeline.info)

**A note from Shawn Posey** :: Mountain Valley Pipeline's Senior Vice President, Construction & Engineering

## Our commitment to Our Communities

For the thousands of people who attended one of our 14 open houses held throughout West Virginia and Virginia – thank you for getting involved, for coming with an open mind, for asking thoughtful questions, and for giving us valuable feedback, that will help shape our plans as we move forward.

The Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) is a partnership between affiliates of EQT Corporation and NextEra Energy to build a 300-mile pipeline in response to growing demand for natural gas. If approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the pipeline will travel through West Virginia and Virginia to deliver energy to a variety of consumers – from homes and small businesses, to manufacturers and electric utilities that plan to convert their facilities to cleaner burning natural gas.

At the open houses, we learned that while many people understand the beneficial impact to local tax revenue and job growth, they wanted to know more about a study conducted by FTI Consulting in December 2014 that focused on the project's economic benefits to local communities.

That study revealed that construction of the pipeline would create approximately 4,300 temporary jobs, generate hundreds of millions of dollars in construction spending, and provide tens of millions in additional tax revenue. After construction, MVP could provide more than \$14 million annually in West Virginia state and local tax revenue; and more than \$7 million in Virginia. Open house visitors wanted to know how FTI conducted their analysis.

FTI performed their analysis, in conjunction with EQT, using a combination of financial models that were developed after numerous conversations with state tax officials and tax attorneys. In the end, we were able to most accurately project, county by county, what the increase in property tax revenue would be from the MVP. The additional tax revenue could be used to fund improvements to local infrastructure and education, among other things.

Some residents expressed concerns about how the pipeline could affect the environment; whether it is safe; how it might impact property values; and some wanted more information about easement agreements.

On safety and the environment, the National Transportation Safety Board and the U.S. Department of Transportation have reported that natural gas pipelines are the safest form of energy transportation in the U.S. Our companies view safety as a core value, and we take tremendous precautions to ensure the long-term safety and integrity of our pipelines.

Once the pipeline is operational, we will use sophisticated technologies, including remote-controlled shut-off valves, to monitor the pipeline in real time, 24-hours-a-day, and seven-days-a-week. Periodic physical inspections will occur on the rights-of way; and we will perform internal inspections to check for corrosion, cracking or other defects that may affect safety. Our goal is to develop a route that minimizes the environmental impact and protects sensitive areas before, during, and after construction.

On the subject of property values, there is some reassuring evidence that property values are not adversely impacted by natural gas pipelines. In fact, in December 2014, in its approval of another pipeline in Pennsylvania, the FERC cited several recent studies showing no evidence that pipeline construction contributes to a significant decline in property values.

Some open house visitors had questions about easement agreements. We will work with every landowner to negotiate a mutual easement agreement that offers fair compensation for the use of their land to build and operate the pipeline. Every landowner will retain ownership and use of their land, and in almost all cases, the land can return to its normal use after construction is complete.

As we listened to you, we recognized the need to consider alternative routes on certain segments of the pipeline and, as a result, we recently submitted several alternative routes to the FERC. We will continue studying these alternatives, in addition to the current proposed route, to ensure that the pipeline has a minimal impact on landowners, the environment, and cultural resources. As we move forward, we will continue to keep you informed and remain focused on minimizing impacts to your community.

**Our commitment to you is that every step of the way, we will listen to your concerns, and we will do this the right way.**