



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
RICHMOND

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TWENTIETH DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
EDUCATION
GENERAL LAWS
HEALTH, WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS

April 14, 2017

Ms. Kimberly Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Ms. Bose:

I am writing to you once again with regard to the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline. I am a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, representing the people of the 20th House District. My district includes parts of Nelson and Augusta County and all of Highland County, all of which are impacted by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Since plans for the pipeline were first announced, I have heard from many constituents and property owners, many of whom have also reached out to FERC. I have met with countless small groups, individuals, and families who are impacted by the proposed route. In the countless contacts I have received over the last few years, a few themes remain constant and I would like to pass some of these along.

My first concern and a primary concern of many of those impacted, is the widespread use of eminent domain. As you know, the route currently being surveyed by Dominion would require them to use eminent domain on a great deal of private property. While I am not generally a fan of eminent domain, I certainly understand that there are some instances where it is necessary for the public good. It is worth noting again, however, that the property owners who are sacrificing their property for this pipeline are unlikely to see any direct benefit from this project. With this in mind, I would like to see Dominion use existing easements and rights of way to the extent possible to help reduce the impact of the pipeline on private property owners.

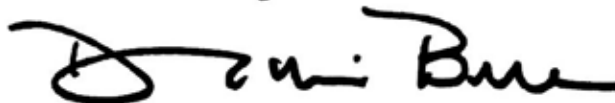
Another common concern expressed to me is the impact that this pipeline could have on the water supply of surrounding localities. Our area has one of the highest concentrations of Karst terrain in Virginia. Many fear that the instability of this terrain could threaten the water supply both during construction and in the event of a rupture or leak of the pipeline. This could harm the water supply of not only impacted localities but also surrounding

localities, including Staunton and Waynesboro, which I also represent. Our area is already particularly vulnerable to water pollution and many fear that the addition of this pipeline could exacerbate an already existent problem. I have spoken to representatives of Dominion who have indicated that they are aware of the concerns with the water supply, though it remains unclear what steps will be taken to help alleviate this concern.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not draw your attention to the concerns that many have shared with me regarding the impact that construction could have on tourism. While there has been some talk about the potential for construction jobs and other economic benefits to this pipeline, we must also look at the flip side. Many fear that construction of the pipeline could cause a disruption to our tourism industry. People travel from across the country to our area to take advantage of the many beautiful natural resources and other attractions. These localities depend on the revenues that this tourism brings in.

While these are only some of the many concerns raised by those whom I have talked to over the previous months and years, I believe they are certainly some of the most important. I know that you have heard these concerns expressed by many of my constituents, many of whom are much more personally affected and invested in these outcomes than I. As their representative, however, I wanted to echo these concerns and ask that you take them into full consideration as you continue the review of possible routes for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. I appreciate your consideration. If I can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dickie Bell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dickie Bell