

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

June 18, 2015

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable H. Morgan Griffith
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Griffith:

Thank you for your May 1, 2015, letter regarding the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project (MVP Project) involving construction and operation of natural gas facilities by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Mountain Valley), a joint venture between affiliates of EQT Corporation and NextEra Energy, Inc., in West Virginia and Virginia (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Docket No. PF15-3-000).

Mountain Valley filed its pre-filing request letter on October 27, 2014 and the Director of the Office of Energy Projects approved its request to enter into our pre-filing process. The Commission's pre-filing process allows our staff to actively participate with landowners, interested parties, other federal and state agencies, elected officials, and the applicant in order to identify environmental or other issues, and discuss potential solutions and route modifications before an application is filed. By engaging the public early in the process we believe that we can conduct a comprehensive and meaningful review of the project as part of our obligation under the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Commission issued a *Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned Mountain Valley Pipeline Project, Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings* on April 17, 2015. This NOI established a scoping period that will conclude on June 16, 2015. Although Commission staff does not intend to extend the formal scoping period, staff will continue to consider comments throughout its review of the project. Please know that the Commission gives equal consideration to written comments and verbal comments received at a public meeting.

As stated in the NOI, after Mountain Valley files its formal application with the FERC, staff will produce a draft environmental impact statement (EIS) that analyzes environmental impacts that may result from construction and operation of the project. A schedule for the draft EIS has not been determined yet. Public comment meetings will be conducted to consider comments on the draft EIS.

The Commission will make its decision regarding the proposed project after a final EIS is issued. That final EIS would address all comments received on the draft. Our decision will be based on a careful review of the consolidated record, including public comments, and will be rooted in the law, facts, and science. I encourage you and your constituents to continue participating in the review of the project, and to express your concerns about it by filing any comments or any material that you believe will help us consider this matter.

I hope this information has been helpful. If I can be of any further assistance in this or any other Commission matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman C. Bay" with a checkmark at the end.

Norman C. Bay
Chairman