

Survey Activity

As proposed, the MVP Southgate project is natural gas pipeline system that spans approximately 74 miles from southern Virginia to central North Carolina – and as an interstate pipeline will be regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). MVP Southgate will be developed, constructed, and owned by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC (Mountain Valley).

The MVP Southgate route is being designed to avoid sensitive or protected areas; limit surface disturbance; minimize the overall environmental footprint; and utilize as many existing gas and electric transmission corridors as possible. Civil, cultural, and environmental surveys will play a vital role in the route planning process as they help the project team to better understand the unique features of the region. Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, contracts with surveying professionals, who are licensed in the states in which work is being performed, to perform work on its behalf for the MVP Southgate project.

Civil Surveys

Civil surveys provide valuable information on the terrain of the proposed pipeline, allowing the team to determine where to avoid residential areas, decrease the amount of steep sidehill construction, and how to best traverse roads and railroad crossings. During the survey, field crews walk the proposed route and gather data to help develop the final route and guide other survey crews to effectively conduct their work.

Cultural Surveys

Cultural surveys are conducted to help identify and protect cultural and historic features along the proposed pipeline route. In order to conduct these surveys, trained experts travel the route and document historic buildings and search for signs of potential archeological resources. If indicators are present, archeologists perform a small discovery excavation to determine the validity of the resources.

If and when resources are verified, extensive documentation of items is performed and possible route alternatives are considered to avoid areas of cultural significance.

Environmental Surveys

Environmental surveys are also an integral element of the routing process and include many levels of study that provide invaluable information on the region – and most specifically along the proposed route. Waterbody and wetland surveys are being conducted to determine areas where the pipeline should take special precautions to preserve water resources. If and when resources are located, extensive documentation is performed and route alternatives are considered to avoid waterbody and wetland areas when feasible.

Mountain Valley is committed to building a safe, environmentally responsible pipeline. The MVP Southgate project team will work diligently with stakeholders, including landowners, community members, local officials, as well as state and federal agencies, to identify the best possible route for the proposed pipeline.

