

IN THE PIPELINE

MVP SOUTHGATE NEWSLETTER
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Our project newsletter to stakeholders

We are pleased to provide you with the sixth newsletter for the MVP Southgate project as part of our effort to maintain communication with stakeholders throughout the regulatory process.

About MVP Southgate

Mountain Valley announced this proposed 75-mile interstate natural gas transmission pipeline in 2018. It is designed to meet customer demand for low-cost natural gas supply access in southern Virginia and central North Carolina. Dominion Energy North Carolina (DENC), formerly PSNC Energy, is a local natural gas distribution company that signed a long-term agreement to purchase natural gas from MVP Southgate. The North Carolina Utilities Commission has recognized MVP Southgate as the best option for meeting DENC customers' demand for natural gas.

MVP Southgate receives Final Environmental Impact Statement

On Friday, Feb. 14, 2020, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the MVP Southgate project.

The FEIS concludes that the MVP Southgate project can be built and operated safely and successfully. While construction and operation of the MVP Southgate would result in some adverse environmental impacts, the majority of these impacts would be temporary and reduced to less-than-significant levels. As part of the FERC review, specific mitigation measures were developed in order to appropriately and reasonably reduce the environmental impacts resulting from construction and operation of the pipeline. These mitigation measures are being recommended as conditions to any authorization issued by the Commission.

The MVP Southgate team appreciates the strong support that this important infrastructure project has received in North Carolina and Virginia. We remain committed to continuing to work collaboratively and cooperatively with landowners, federal and state agencies, local governments, tribes, community groups and other non-governmental organizations in the coming months, and we look forward to receiving all necessary permits and authorizations in order to build and operate this important infrastructure line.

Key takeaways from FERC's Final Environmental Impact Statement

"We conclude that Mountain Valley's compliance with applicable design, construction and maintenance standards, and DOT safety regulations would be protective of public safety."
(Page ES-9)

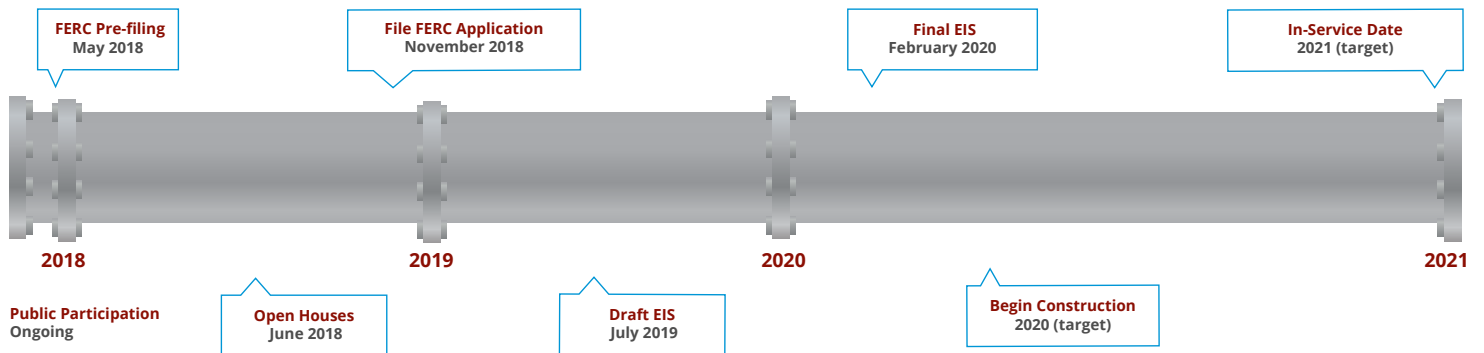
"[N]o other alternative would meet the purpose of the Project, be technically and economically feasible, and provide a significant environmental advantage."
(Page ES-10)

"Though temporary impacts would result from the Project, with implementation of BMPs and mitigation proposed by Mountain Valley, as well as our recommendations, we conclude the Project would not significantly affect water resources."
(Page 4-51)

Read the full FEIS at
www.mvpsouthgate.com/news-info/

What's next

The MVP Southgate team anticipates receiving all necessary permits and authorizations in order to begin construction this year. The MVP Southgate project is targeted to enter service in 2021, providing the additional supply of natural gas needed to meet public demand and generating additional annual tax revenue to localities along the proposed route.



More key points from the FEIS

“Our review of available studies indicates that the Project is not likely to have a significant adverse impact on property values.” (Page ES-7)

[W]e conclude that the Project would not result in high and adverse impacts on vulnerable populations and would not have a disproportionately high and adverse impact on the remaining environmental justice populations within the study area. (Page 4-153)

Due to the distance between the Project and the Jordan Lake impoundment and the proposed surface water protection measures, no impacts would be expected to Jordan Lake’s water quality or function. (Page 4-43)

“Mountain Valley proposes to cross the Dan River via HDD and no in-stream disturbance is anticipated.” (Page 4-39)

“For the Southgate Project, Mountain Valley proposes to use Virginia and North Carolina standards for erosion and sediment control, which mandate that control measures be designed to handle storm events that are reasonably expected to occur during the period of construction. Mountain Valley has also agreed to implement supplemental control measures, which exceed the minimum standards required by these states.” (Page 1-12)



The proposed MVP Southgate project will use a horizontal directional drill to cross below the bed of the Dan River in order to avoid potential impacts on the waterbody.

Frequently Asked Questions about the MVP Southgate

Underground pipeline systems are the safest and most efficient way to move natural gas. Many people may not realize that more than 30,000 miles of natural gas pipeline currently operate in North Carolina, or that more than 20,000 miles of natural gas pipeline operate in Virginia today. That makes it easy for misinformation to spread. Here are some of the most common

questions circulating about this proposed project, along with the facts.

Question: Is the MVP Southgate project being built to export gas overseas?

Fact: The MVP Southgate project is far from the coast and even farther from the nearest LNG export facility. Furthermore, MVP Southgate has not filed for the federal Section 3 authorization needed to be able to export natural gas. The MVP Southgate project team has no plans to file for this authorization.

Question: Is there a local need for this project?

Fact: Yes. The MVP Southgate project is being built to provide low-cost supply access to natural gas produced in the Marcellus and Utica shale regions for service delivery to Dominion Energy North Carolina (formerly PSNC Energy) customers, as well as existing and new end-user markets in southern Virginia and central North Carolina. DENC is a local distribution company and is the anchor shipper on the MVP Southgate project. It has demonstrated to the North Carolina Utilities Commission that the MVP Southgate project offers the best-cost option for providing natural gas to its customers.

Question: Why are some people saying that studies show this project isn't needed?

Fact: Opposition-funded studies have provided flawed conclusions based on incomplete data. The North Carolina Utilities Commission regulates public utilities in North Carolina, including local gas distribution companies. In 2018, Dominion Energy North Carolina (formerly known as PSNC Energy) demonstrated to the NCUC that MVP Southgate offers the best-cost option for providing the natural gas that its customers demand. The company's application included public and nonpublic, confidential data, which allowed for a full and thorough analysis. The NCUC approved the application.

Question: Will drilling under the Dan River and other waterbodies include the use of toxic drilling mud?

Fact: The project team will use water-based drilling mud, typically consisting of inert clay like bentonite and water. Contractors will be limited to use of additives that are NSF/ANSI Standard 60 compliant. This is the same accreditation used to certify additives for drilling water wells. This attests that any additives meet the high standards intrinsic to water well fluids and ensures no harm to local drinking water supplies.

Question: Is the epoxy coating used on the pipeline toxic?

Fact: Fusion-bonded epoxy coatings have been used in various applications since the 1960s. This includes being used to line the interior of pipes in public drinking water systems as a measure to inhibit corrosion of the steel pipes. Fusion-bonded epoxy coatings have been studied extensively, and we are unaware of any evidence supporting claims of risk to human health or the environment.

Question: Is construction of a natural gas pipeline uniquely dangerous?

Fact: The construction sequence for a natural gas pipeline closely follows the sequence for any other type of pipeline, whether it is designed to carry wastewater, drinking water or hazardous materials. The sequence involves tree-felling, clearing, grading, trenching, stringing and welding pipe, lowering pipe into the trench, backfilling and restoration. In areas where blasting is required, crews use small, controlled charges that are applied after a rigorous and scientific analysis. This is a highly technical process performed by experienced professionals in order to avoid impacts to groundwater. At waterbody crossings, any dams used to facilitate construction are released in a very slow, deliberative and controlled fashion to minimize turbidity. These are common practices used routinely in construction of various types of pipelines.

The MVP Southgate team is committed to safely and responsibly building and operating this important project. The proposed route and more details about the project can be found at www.mvpsouthgate.com.



Your feedback is important to us

For more information on our project

Access recent project filings on the FERC website at
https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket_search.asp
and use the docket number **CP19-14**

Contact the MVP Southgate project team
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