



Preserve Craig ~ Sustaining the Quality of Life We Value

P.O. Box 730, New Castle, VA 24127 Phone: (540) 309-9560
www.PreserveCraig.org Email: PreserveCraig@gmail.com

Report to the Craig County Board of Supervisors June 1, 2017

Recent Activities Regarding the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) and the Jefferson National Forest Plan

1. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) still plans to complete its environmental study of MVP and final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on June 23, 2017, followed by a 90-day deadline for a final decision by the FERC Commissioners by September 21, 2017.
2. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) may not require MVP to obtain individual 401 Permits for the project. DEQ announced today that it will hold public hearings about MVP at Chatham High School (date to be announced) and Radford University on August 8.
3. Senate hearings to consider two FERC nominees to fill commissioner vacancies were held last week. The FERC does not currently have a quorum to approve any projects.
4. Senator Warner is co-sponsoring legislation to require the FERC to be more accountable.
5. Newport Historic District filed extensive documentation that Alt 1A was never studied and is a route that avoids Karst, historic sites, steep terrain, and Jefferson National Forest. Also, the FERC was forced to grant several owners of historic property in Giles County Consulting Status on MVP when the State's historic officers interceded after the FERC had refused them.
6. The national organization, Bold Alliance, is organizing landowners to legally challenge eminent domain for private gain and stop MVP. The next public meeting will be held this Tuesday, June 6 at 7 PM at the First Christian Church in Newport, in Giles County.
7. Anti-MVP Festival with dance, music, films, info, and local foods is scheduled for June 10, 2017 at Elmwood Park Amphitheater in Roanoke from 3 PM to 10 PM.
8. MVP continues to provide flawed and incomplete info to FERC that the public can't access. A class action lawsuit against EQM, an affiliate of MVP, was recently certified to go forward regarding their fraudulent treatment of landowners.
9. Preserve Craig is tracking the Forest Service's (FS) review of the four changes to the Forest Management Plan that would be required before issuing MVP a Special Use Permit. Preserve Craig submitted proof to both the FS and the FERC that MVP fails to meet criteria for such changes and MVP construction would lead to disaster for this region's water and people.
10. Preserve Craig continues to fund several legal efforts to protect our environment. Funds are needed to oppose MVP and requests for donations to Preserve Craig is ongoing.
11. Over two years of work to date – over 3300 pages submitted on behalf of our community to defend Craig County, representing over \$320,000 in volunteer efforts. Over \$55,000 in actual tax deductible donations have been collected and used for educational and environmental protection efforts.