



Preserve Craig ~ Sustaining the Quality of Life We Value

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Report to the Craig County Board of Supervisors July 5, 2018

Status of Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP): Re-Hearing Requests before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Lawsuits against US Forest Service (FS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the VA Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and others.

1. Last week the Fourth Circuit Federal Court in Richmond ordered a STOP WORK order in West Virginia under a faulty Corps of Engineers permit Nationwide 12 Permit. There are similar requests pending in Virginia. Without this Federal Permit, the FERC permits should be invalid, but MVP is ignoring this and continuing to build as fast as possible.
2. MVP issued its own voluntary stop work order in Virginia on Friday June 29, in order to avoid stronger action by DEQ. However, they began work again today. It is unclear what they are doing, but work has resumed in Craig County.
3. The secret agreements between the Commonwealth of Virginia and MVP granting MVP exemptions in return for relatively small payments to non-profits, signed last year, appear to be limiting the issuance of non-compliance to MVP. These agreements may have been illegal and fraudulent and are now being investigated.
4. Preserve Craig's lawsuits against the FS, BLM, and DEQ permits for MVP were consolidated and argued in front of the Fourth District Federal Court on May 8, 2018. Rulings are pending.
5. The State Water Control Board is scheduled to meet on August 21 in Richmond. Preserve Craig plans to request they rescind the DEQ approval of MVP E&S plans, the 401 permit, and the Nationwide 12 permits for blanket approval of stream crossings. The DEQ public comment period about MVP stream crossings closed on June 15.
6. Mountain Valley Watch (MVW), a collaboration of volunteers, nonprofits, and private interests is documenting construction violations by MVP and reporting them to FERC and DEQ. Call or text to 833-MVWATCH (833-689-2824) with any info on harm MVP is causing. MVP construction in Craig County is harming wetland and Sinking Creek and historic sites in Sinking Creek and being reported to DEQ.
7. Preserve Craig's re-hearing objections with the FERC were denied, with prejudice. Two of the commissioners supported the objections. Craig County's joint rehearing motion filed with Roanoke County was also denied. This opens the door to suing the FERC and MVP to withdraw its permits, which is now being considered.
8. Two lawsuits to block MVP from eminent domain are still awaiting trial in federal courts in Roanoke and DC. Both challenge the FERC's authority to authorize eminent domain for private gain for MVP.
9. Preserve Craig has collected over \$22,000 of its initial \$30,000 goal for the Forest Service legal fund to oppose MVP. Tax deductible donations to Preserve Craig are needed now.
10. Over three years of work to date – over 4400 pages submitted on behalf of our community to defend Craig County, representing over \$430,000 in volunteer efforts. Over \$88,000 in actual tax-deductible donations have been collected and used for educational and environmental protection efforts.

Preserve Craig, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation formed in 1991 using volunteers and donations to protect our natural, historical, and cultural resources. Tax Identification Number: 54-1597979