

A Guide to the Friends of Nelson Record of the Western and Central Virginia Resistance to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, 2014-2021

Friends of Nelson Record of the Western and Central Virginia Resistance to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, 2014-2021
2014-2021

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Historical Information

Friends of Nelson (FON) was formed in June 2014 in response to the plans of Dominion Energy, Inc., to construct a pipeline routed through West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina. From 2014 until 2020, the Friends of Nelson and allied organizations used a wide variety of activities and actions to oppose the pipeline. On 5 July 2020, Dominion and Duke Energy cancelled the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project.

Scope and Content

Records, 2014-2021, of the Friends of Nelson, an organization located in Nelson County, Virginia, documenting western and central Virginia resistance to the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) project planned by Dominion Energy, Inc., and Duke Energy Corporation. Papers include announcements, appendices, articles, brochures, correspondence, court records, graphics, maps, notes, petitions, publications, reports, signs, and other documents. Records of other organizations opposing the ACP are included in the collection.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged

- Series I: Dominion, 2014-2018;
- Series II: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 2015-2021;
- Series III: U.S. Forest Service, 2014-2016;
- Series IV: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, 2017-2019
- Series V: Augusta County, 2014-2018;
- Series VI: Buckingham County, 2014-2019
- Series VII: Nelson County, 2014-2021
- Series VIII: Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance (ABRA)
- Series IX: Arts and Activism
- Series X: Community Groups
- Series XI: Easements
- Series XII: Economics
- Series XIII: Eminent Domain
- Series XIV: Environmental Impact
- Series XV: Environmental Justice
- Series XVI: Events
- Series XVII: Historic Resources
- Series XVIII: Legal
- Series XIX: Letters to Agencies and Officials
- Series XX: Man Camps
- Series XXI: Maps
- Series XXII: News Media
- Series XXIII: Other Pipelines
- Series XXIV: Photographs
- Series XXV: Pipes, Pipe Yards, and Storage Areas
- Series XXVI: Safety and Public Health
- Series XXVII: Surveys

- Series XXVIII: Oversize
- Series XXVIX: *Gaslight: The Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Fight for America's Energy Future*

Contents List

Finding Aid

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Series I: Dominion 2014-2018

Box 1

Scope and Content

In late May 2014, landowners in western and central Virginia received letters from Dominion about a new pipeline. Initially called the Southeast Reliability Project, the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline LLC (ACP) was a project of Dominion Energy, Inc., and Duke Energy, Corporation. The ACP was a proposed 48 inch, 1400 psi pipeline intended to bring fracked natural gas from the Marcellus Shale Fields in West Virginia through West Virginia, then southeast into Virginia (including Highland, Bath, Augusta, Nelson, and Buckingham Counties) into North Carolina, to an originally planned terminus near Lumberton, NC. After delays brought about by intense opposition to the ACP and by its ballooning cost, Dominion and Duke announced cancellation of the proposed project on 5 July 2020.

Dominion mailings, 2014-2018

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Folder 1

Letters to Dominion by citizens and groups, 2014-2015, 2018

Box 1

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Series II: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 2015-2021

Boxes 1-2 (box)

Scope and Content

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is an independent federal agency that regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas, oil, and electricity. FERC also regulates natural gas and hydropower projects, issues documents and rulings related to projects under consideration, as well as requesting information from the proposers. Beginning in 2014, FERC held several hearings on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. FERC also solicited written comments by citizens and groups on the initial docket number PF15-6, and then on the permanent docket number CP15-554.

FERC mailings, 2015-2021

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FERC Draft Environmental Impact Statement (cd), December 2016

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FERC Final Environmental Impact Statement (cd), July 2017

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FERC scoping meeting comments, March 2015, May 2016, February 2017

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Friends of Nelson presentation to FERC, 15 December 2014

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Individual and group submissions to FERC, 2014

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Individual and group submissions to FERC, 2015

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Individual and group submissions to FERC, 2016-2021

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Individual and group submissions to FERC, no date

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Folder 2

Series III: U.S. Forestry Service 2014-2016

Box 2

Scope and Content

This series contains documents about the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) route through the U.S. Forest Service's George Washington and Monongahela National Forests, as well as the effects of the ACP on sensitive resources in the National Forests.

Pipeline route through the George Washington National Forest and the Monongahela National Forest, correspondence, 2014-2016

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Series IV: Virginia Department of Environmental Quality 2017-2019

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Scope and Content

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality oversees both the Water Control Board and the Air Pollution Control Board, both of which held hearing and discussions on state permits required by the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

State Air Pollution Control Board papers, 2018-2019

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State Air Pollution Control Board letters, 2017-2018

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State Air Pollution Control Board letters, 2019

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State Water Control Board papers, 2017-2018

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Series V: Augusta County, 2014-2018

Box 2

Scope and Content

This series includes materials on resistance to the pipeline in Augusta County, gathered primarily by Nancy Sorrells of the Augusta County Alliance.

Augusta County Alliance 2014-2018

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Extent

2 folders

Augusta County Alliance papers, 2014-2018

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Augusta County Alliance public relations and outreach

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Augusta County Farm Bureau 2018

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1 folder

Augusta County Farm Bureau resolution, 2018

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Series VI: Buckingham County, 2014-2019

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Scope and Content

This series includes materials on resistance to the pipeline in Buckingham County.

Buckingham County Board of Supervisors 2014-2015

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2 folders

Buckingham County Board of Supervisors papers, 2014-2015

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Petitions to the Buckingham County Board of Supervisors, 2015

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Friends of Buckingham 2014-2019

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2 folders

Papers, 2014-2019

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Press releases, 2015-2018

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Compressor station papers, 2014-2017

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Series VII: Nelson County, 2014-2022

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Scope and Content

This series includes materials on resistance to the pipeline in Nelson County, primarily the Friends of Nelson.

Nelson County official documents, 2014-2021

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Friends of Nelson 2014-2022

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Extent

19 folders

Anti-pipeline meeting video, 8 June 2014

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Early organizing, 2014

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Financial processes, 2014

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A Pipeline Fighters' Guide, by Ron Enders, October 2022

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Mailings, 2014-2016

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Surveys, August 2015

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Press releases, 12 August 2014-3 July 2015

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--general

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--economics

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--property rights

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--letter writing, 2014-2016

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--letters, petitions, 2017-2019

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--elected officials contact sheet

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--sample membership forms

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--bumper stickers and brochure

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Public relations and outreach tabling materials--flyers, graphics

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Public relations and outreach--Atlantic Coast Pipeline impacts on Nelson County, updated presentations, 2014-2015

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10 Reasons to Oppose the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, reports

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10 Reasons to Oppose the Atlantic Coast Pipeline,

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Series VIII: Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance (ABRA), 2014-2022

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Scope and Content

Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance (ABRA), formed in response to the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline, is a coalition of conservation organizations dedicated to promoting and protecting the environmental integrity of the Allegheny-Blue Ridge region, which encompasses the Central Appalachian Highlands area of Virginia and West Virginia. The formation of ABRA was announced in a press release on 8 September 2014.

General papers

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Dominion Pipeline Monitoring Coalition/Pipeline Compliance Surveillance Initiative

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Series IX: Arts and Activism

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Scope and Content

Numerous artists and musicians contributed their talents to the fight against the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. This series includes samples of work by some of the artists.

Arts and activism--songs, poems, artwork, and other papers

Box 3

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Series X: Community groups, 2013-2018

Boxes 4-5 (box)

Scope and Content

This series includes documents from groups and organizations that, in various ways and at various times, both formally and informally, participated in the fight against the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, including one folder of miscellaneous materials and publications from other organizations. This is by no means a complete listing, nor is the material included here a complete set of materials from the entities represented.

All Pain, No Gain (Wintergreen, Va.--Nelson and Augusta Counties), 2014-2015

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Direct Action, 2013-2018

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Dutch Creek and Harris Cove (Nelson County, Va.), 2014

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Dutch Creek and Harris Cove (Nelson County, Va.)--landowner organizing, 2015-2017

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Friends of Horizon--The Appalachian Trail South Alternate Route: Impact on Horizons Village, 26 March 2015

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Friends of Wintergreen

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Pipeline Coordination Committee, 25 May 2015

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Pipeline Education Group (PEG)

Boxes 4-5 (box)

Extent

20 folders

Tabling materials

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Tabling materials--route maps

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Tabling materials--pipeline failures

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Tabling materials--flooding

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Tabling materials--compressor stations

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Tabling materials--fracking--soil contamination
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Tabling materials--fracking--politics
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Rockfish Valley Foundation
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Wild Virginia

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Folder 7

Materials and publications from other groups

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Series XI: Easements, 2014-2021

Box 5

Scope and Content

This series includes general material on easements, including pointers for landowners considering easement terms and agreements, signed easement agreements, lists of easement agreements copied at the Augusta County Courthouse, and correspondence on easements. Also see the Eminent Domain series below.

Augusta County, 2019-2021

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Buckingham County, 2016

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Virginia Outdoors Foundation, 2014-2017

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Folder 11

Series XII: Economics, 2015-2016

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Scope and Content

This series includes summaries and reports regarding the economic costs and impact of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline.

Economics of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Considered by Doug Hornig, May 2015

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Are the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline Necessary? Synapse Energy Economics report, 12 September 2016

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Overview of Economic Impacts of the ACP on Nelson County, remarks by Connie Brennan, 12 September 2016

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Atlantic Coast Pipeline: Executive Summary, by Thomas Hadwin, Friends of Central Shenandoah Valley, 2015

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Series XIII: Eminent Domain, 2014-2015

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Scope and Content

Natural gas companies seeking to build a pipeline in the United States must apply for a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. If landowners will not sign easements, the certificate allows the company to assert eminent domain in court. File includes materials from eminent domain lawyers. See the Easement series above.

Materials from eminent domain lawyers, 2014-2015

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Series XIV: Environmental Impact, 2014-2020

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Scope and Content

This series includes materials related to the various citizen, group, and agency efforts to demonstrate the environmental impacts and damages that the Atlantic Coast Pipeline would cause. It includes things specific to individual counties, e.g. the floodplain zoning ordinance in Nelson County, the well study in Buckingham County, karst in Augusta County. See also the Pipeline Education Group tabling materials in the Community Groups series, tabling materials in the Nelson County Series-Friends of Nelson subseries, and the Oversize series for posters used in tabling.

Agricultural and forestal, 2014

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Endangered and sensitive species, 2015

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Flooding and Floodplains

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2 folders

Nelson County floodplain ordinance, 2015-2020

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Floodplain maps--Nelson County

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Geohazards

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Karst, caves, and sinkholes, 2014

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Landslides, 2015-2016

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Water

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Extent

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Buckingham County baseline water testing

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Nelson County--Peavine Mountain area

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Nelson County water body crossings--Dutch Creek, Wheeler's Cove, Peavine, 2016-2018

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Nelson County testing

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Series XV: Environmental Justice, 2015-2018

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Scope and Content

Dominion's siting of a compressor station in Union Hill (Buckingham County, Va.), which is a majority African American community, immediately met resistance as a matter of environmental justice. This series includes both Dominion documents and local research to counter Dominion claims.

Environmental justice papers, 2018

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Union Hill (Buckingham County, Va.) Community Development Corporation, 2015-2016

Box 6

Folder 2

Series XVI: Events, 2018-2021

Box 6

Scope and Content

Numerous meetings, protests, educational events, concerts, training sessions, lobbying events, and other events took place between June 2014 and the July 2021 celebration of the July 2020 cancellation of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, sponsored by many different individuals and groups.

Spruce Creek Camp, 2018

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Moral Call for Ecological Justice, 19 February 2019

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Friends of Nelson celebration, 10 July 2021

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Series XVII: Historic Resources, 2015-2027

Box 6

Scope and Content

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires federal agencies to consider the effects on historic properties of projects they carry out, assist, fund, permit, license, or approve. Thus, as part of its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) application process, Dominion was required to survey historic and archaeological resources on the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline route. Under the Section 106 process, organizations such as historical societies could become consulting parties in order to ensure that cultural resources, including historical structures and archaeological resources were properly surveyed and protected. Surveys often required mitigation efforts, and consulting parties could review and request revision of plans and documents related to the mitigation process. Because FERC did not follow Section 106 requirements, it was two years before the Augusta and Nelson historical societies were able to get their respective Boards of Supervisors to request and get consulting party status. Included here are materials on historic, archaeological, and cultural resources relevant to locales in the region.

Phase I: Historic Architectural Survey of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project draft and related papers, July 2017

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Folder 6

Native American sites

Box 6

Folder 7

Nelson County Historical Resources

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Extent

11 folders

African American slave cemeteries

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Cultural attachment--background materials, 2016-2017

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Cultural attachment--correspondence, 2015-2017

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Cultural attachment--Craig County materials, 1995-2016

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Cultural attachment--FERC Resource Report excerpts, 2015

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Cultural attachment--press coverage, 2015-2016

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Norwood-Wingina historic sites--background materials

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Norwood-Wingina historic sites--Survey of Architectural Resources Norwood and Wingina Vicinities Nelson County, June 2014

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Norwood-Wingina historic sites--correspondence, 2014-2015

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Norwood-Wingina historic sites--Rock Cliff, 2015

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Warminster Historic District

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Series XVIII: Legal, 2014-2017

Boxes 7-8 (box)

Scope and Content

This series includes legal filings, briefs, and other documents opposing the Atlantic Coast Pipelin, as well as commentary on legal matters.

Additional Case Documents

Boxes 7-8 (box)

Extent

27 folders

Barr petition for appeal, 8 May 2017

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Barr brief in opposition to respondent, 30 May 2017

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Folder 2

Barr writ certificate (appeal granted without argument), 12 September 2017

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Barr joint appendix designation, 27 September 2017

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Barr joint appendix (folder 1), 18 October 2017
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Barr joint appendix (folder 2), 18 October 2017
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Barr joint appendix (folder 3), 18 October 2017
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Barr brief of appellants, 23 October 2017
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Barr brief of appellants, 17 November 2017
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Barr reply brief of appellants, 1 December 2017
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Barr Virginia Supreme Court opinion and dissent, 5 July 2018
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Casale, et. al. complaint, 2014
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Folder 12

Chaffins motion to expedite appeal, 15 April 2016
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Chaffins brief in opposition to petition for appeal, 9 May 2016
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Chaffins opening brief of appellants, 23 January 2017
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Chaffins reply brief of appellants, 3 March 2017
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Folder 1

Chaffins Virginia Supreme Court opinion, 13 July 2017

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Folder 2

Klemic, et. al. documents, 2014

Box 8

Folder 3

Longobardi petition for appeal, 8 May 2017

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Folder 4

McQuary filing of memorandum, 2015

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Folder 5

Palmer petition for appeal, 23 April 2016

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Palmer brief in opposition to petition for appeal, 16 May 2016

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Palmer writ certificate (appeal granted), 16 September 2016

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Palmer brief of appellee, 21 November 2016

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Palmer reply brief of appellant, 5 December 2016

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Palmer Virginia Supreme Court opinion, 12 July 2017

Box 8

Folder 11

Visceglia, et. al. complaint, 14 July 2014

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Folder 12

Other Legal Materials

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Extent

2 folders

National Resources and Energy Law Symposium, 21 September 2015

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Folder 13

Articles about surveying cases, 2015-2017

Box 8

Folder 14

Series XIX: Letters to Agencies and Officials, 2014-2019

Box 8

Scope and Content

This series includes letters on issues related to the pipeline from citizens and groups, sent to various agencies, e.g. U.S. Forest Service, or to elected officials. See also letters from citizens and groups in the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) series; the Dominion series; and the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality series.

Letters, 2014-2019

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Letters to Nelson County officials, 2014-2016

Box 8

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Series XX: Man Camps, 2017-2018

Box 8

Scope and Content

There was concern in communities on and near the pipeline route that if construction started, many local campgrounds would become family-unfriendly "man camps". This series includes materials on two campground applications to the Buckingham County Planning Commission.

Papers to Buckingham County Planning Commission for campgrounds, 2017-2018

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Series XXI: Maps

Boxes 8-9 (box)

Scope and Content

The non-Dominion maps of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline route with the logos of the Augusta County Alliance, Shenandoah Valley Network, and the Piedmont Environmental Council (PEC) were created for the Alliance and the Network to show things that the Dominion maps (since removed from the Dominion website) did not include on their maps, including parcel lines.

Dominion Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) route overview

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Alternate routes (folder 1 of 2)

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Alternate routes (folder 2 of 2)

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Alternative routes--east Nelson County

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Augusta County maps

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Buckingham County maps

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Environmental impact maps

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George Washington National Forest map

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Highland County map

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Nelson County maps

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Nelson County route map prepared by Joyce Burton

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Nelson County map--steep slopes, prepared by Joyce Burton

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Folder 9

Series XXII: News Media, 2014-2021

Boxes 9-10 (box)

Scope and Content

Press coverage on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) and the fight against it gathered and donated by various people, collected here in chronological order.

Letters to the editor, primarily by Doug Wellman, 2014-2021

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News articles--pipeline issues across the United States, 2014

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ACP news articles 2014

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ACP news articles (folder 1), January-June 2015

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ACP news articles (folder 2), January-June 2015

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ACP news articles July-December 2015

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ACP news articles 2016

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ACP news articles 2017

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ACP news articles January-June 2018

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ACP news articles July-December 2018

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ACP news articles 2019

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ACP news articles 2020

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Folder 7

ACP news articles 2021

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Series XXIII: Other Pipelines, 2015

Box 11

Scope and Content

This series contains materials on pipelines other than the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), retained either because issues and activities were relevant to the ACP or because Dominion often cited them as models of its safe construction and operation practices.

Papers, 2015

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Folder 1

Series XXIV: Photographs, 2014-2020

Box 11

Scope and Content

This series contains an index of photographs taken by Eleanor Amidon.

Photographs index--Eleanor Amidon, 2014-2020

Box 11

Folder 2

Series XXV: Pipes, Pipe Yards, and Storage

Box 11

Scope and Content

This series includes information on the coating of pipes and on their storage.

Pipe yards and storage areas

Box 11

Folder 3

Series XXVI: Safety and Public Health, 2014-2015

Box 11

Scope and Content

In letters to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and other agencies and officials, as well as in public relations and tabling materials, citizens and groups raised concerns about the blast radius for a potential pipeline failure, about safety issues related to blasting during pipeline construction, as well as about public health issues related to the pipeline.

Papers, 2015

Box 11

Folder 4

Resources for Researching Public Health Implications of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline for Nelson County, VA, by Sheila Stone December 2014

Box 11

Folder 5

Series XXVII: Surveys, 2014-2015

Box 11

Scope and Content

This series includes materials from landowners on their resistance to Dominion's efforts to survey land along the proposed route of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline. There is correspondence from Dominion, from landowners, from landowner lawyers, and from Dominion lawyers, as well as general materials about the surveys and about landowner rights.

Dominion surveys--Ronald Enders and Ellen Bouton, 2014-2015

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Dominion surveys--Steven and Ann Majewski, 2014

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Dominion surveys--John Ed and Ruth Purvis, 2014

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Dominion surveys--John Ed and Ruth Purvis, 2015

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Dominion surveys--Philip Purvis, 2014

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Dominion surveys--Quinn and Laura Robinson, 2014

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Dominion surveys--Martin and Katherine Versluys, 2014-2015

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Dominion surveys--Samuel Woodson, 2015

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Folder 13

Series XXVIII: Oversize materials

Box and Oversize Folders 12 and 1-6 (box)

Scope and Content

This series includes yard signs, informational display boards used in tabling, banners used for tabling and demonstrations, and one reusable shopping bag.

!Enough Is Enough! Give Back Our Stolen Democracy Land Air Water Friends of Buckingham banner--70 1/2" x 45 1/4" (Friends of Buckingham)

Box 12

Stolen: Our Land Air Water and Lives Union Hill Resists Friends of Buckingham VA Concern 4 the New Generation banner--69 1/2" x 44 1/2"

Box 12

Our Community Won banner--59 1/2" x 23 1/4"

Box 12

Dominion Atlantic Coast Pipeline reusable shopping bag

Box 12

No Pipeline yard sign (both sides)--24" x 18"

Folder 1

Property Rights Revival Rockfish Valley Community Center Sunday 11/6 2 PM yard sign (both sides)--24" x 18"

Folder 1

No Pipeline ALLPAINNOGAIN.com yard sign (both sides)--26" x 16"

Folder 1

Dominion Global Warming Starts Here yard sign--24" x 18"

Folder 1

And Dominion Calls This an Environmentally Responsible Route for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline??!! and on reverse Harris Cove poster--29 1/2 x 20"

Folder 2

Impact of Eastern Alternative Route to Wetlands Peavine Area poster--30" x 20"

Folder 2

Friends of Nelson ACP in Nelson County poster--36" x 25 3/4"

Folder 3

Proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline, MVP and Other Pipelines poster 40" x 30"

Folder 4

Imagine the Loss. Don't Buy Dominion's Propaganda. listing myth versus fact poster--42" x 30"

Folder 5

Imagine the Loss. Don't Buy Dominion's Propaganda. 'The Atlantic Coast Pipeline Will Change Everything and Nothing.' Says Who?! (Dominion, of course!) poster--41 3/4" x 30"

Folder 6

Series XXVIX: Gaslight: The Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Fight for America's Energy Future

Box 11

Scope and Content

Gaslight: The Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Fight for America's Energy Future by Jonathan Mingle (Washington D.C.: Island Press, 2024) details the fight of the Friends of Nelson and other organizations and individuals against Dominion Energy's proposed natural gas pipeline.