Atlantic Coast Pipeline today formally applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for permission to build a 564-mile interstate natural gas transmission pipeline. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is being asked to certify the public benefit and necessity of the project. The FERC and a number of participating agencies will examine fully a broad number of issues, including public safety, air quality, water resources, geology, soils, wildlife and vegetation, threatened and endangered species, land and visual resources, cultural and historic resources, noise, cumulative impacts and reasonable alternatives.

Pending regulatory approval, construction is expected to begin in the second half of 2016 and the pipeline is expected to be in service in the fourth quarter of 2018.

The application and Resource Reports will be posted today on: https://www.dom.com/acpipeline. Scroll down the page to the section “Regulatory Documents.” Links to each Resource Report can be found there. The FERC will place the Resource Reports in the project’s electronic docket. Digital copies will be placed in public libraries along the route.

Atlantic is required to submit these Resource Reports as part of the FERC process. Information for the reports is gathered through outreach to landowners, elected officials, agencies and other stakeholder groups as well as land surveys and environmental field studies. The FERC staff will use these documents and its research to develop a Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The reports detail existing environmental, cultural and socioeconomic conditions and potential impacts resulting from construction and operation of the proposed pipeline. In addition to outlining potential impacts, the resource reports must explain plans for avoiding, minimizing or mitigating those impacts.

The 12 Resource Reports cover these specific aspects of the project:

- RR1 – General Project Description
- RR2 – Water Use and Quality
- RR3 – Fish, Wildlife and Vegetation
- RR4 – Cultural Resources
- RR5 – Socioeconomics
- RR6 – Geological Resources
- RR7 – Soils
- RR8 – Land Use, Recreation and Aesthetics
- RR9 – Air and Noise Quality
- RR10 – Route Alternatives
- RR11 – Reliability and Safety
- RR12 – PCB Contamination
Thank you, and please let me know if you have any questions,
Susan