Date: 5/21/2015
To: Local Government Floodplain Administrator, Building Official, Zoning Official, and Administrators
From: Charles Kline, Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation – Floodplain Management Program
Re: Update to Dominion Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Local Floodplain Regulations

The Dominion Atlantic Coast Pipeline will affect a number of communities in Virginia that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The pipeline route will likely cross mapped Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) in many of these communities. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Floodplain Management Program would like to clarify the requirements for permitting this development based upon feedback received from FEMA Region III.

The construction will require a local floodplain development permit regardless of whether development occurs on the surface or not in the SFHA. A locality must evaluate submitted engineering study for approval of any development according to their regulations set forth in the local government’s adopted floodplain ordinance.

DCR’s Floodplain Program staff are available for any questions communities have regarding the pipeline and NFIP issues.

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