

#### Our project newsletter to stakeholders

We are pleased to provide you with the second newsletter for the MVP Southgate project. As part of our effort to maintain communication with stakeholders, we plan to issue this newsletter approximately 3-4 times per year. The newsletter will provide an update on where we are in the regulatory process, what stakeholders should expect in terms of next steps, and other relevant information on our project and the natural gas industry.

## MVP Southgate's formal filing with the FERC

On November 6, 2018, the MVP Southgate project team filed an official application with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. Through the certificate application filing, the FERC is being asked to certify the public convenience and necessity of the MVP Southgate project. The commission, together with cooperating agencies, will conduct a detailed review and evaluation of a broad number of subjects, including public safety; water resources; air quality; wildlife, soils, and vegetation; protected species; cultural and historic resources; sound levels; alternatives; and economic benefits.

The certificate application is a collection of information gathered before and during the FERC pre-filing process. This comprehensive set of documentation includes extensive research from environmental, geological, and economic studies conducted by the MVP Southgate project team and outside experts, as well as intelligence gathered during discussions with landowners along the route, local elected officials and others.

As part of the application, the MVP Southgate project team filed updated Resource Reports and a proposed route map that incorporated input from agencies, landowners and other stakeholders, as well as information from surveys and engineering analysis, gathered during the pre-filing process. These documents are available at mvpsouthgate.com.

## With the application filed, what's next?

Now that the MVP Southgate team has filed its formal application, the project must undergo a lengthy and extensive regulatory review process before construction can begin. Meanwhile, TRC Engineers Inc. will continue to perform survey activities in order to inform the project's design and permitting. The FERC will review the project's submitted application and will prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which we anticipate being issued in the spring of 2019. After the DEIS is issued, the FERC will hold public comment meetings on the statement, after which they will assess the comments and begin drafting a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The current project schedule is targeting fall of 2019 for issuance of the FEIS. After additional review of the FEIS, the FERC makes a decision whether the MVP Southgate project can proceed with construction by issuing an order and granting certification. The project is targeted for construction to begin in the first quarter of 2020, with a completion date targeted for the fourth quarter of 2020.

# Tell me more about recent changes to the project...

The MVP Southgate project's formal application removed one compressor station that had previously been planned for Rockingham County, North Carolina, and modified the diameter of the pipe. As currently proposed, the pipeline will require one compressor station on land owned by Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, near the project's starting point in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. The project will include 24-inch diameter steel pipe for approximately the first 31 miles into Rockingham County, and 16-inch diameter steel pipe for approximately the remaining 42 miles to the project's termination point in Alamance County.

The MVP Southgate project team considered a wide range of alternatives and variations to the proposed route, and made 191 route adjustments in response to feedback collected during the pre-filing process. The proposed route identified in the application encompasses these various revisions, which include the protection of streams, wetlands, and cultural resources, as well as the avoidance of, or minimization of impacts to, several sensitive areas. This includes the reduction in the temporary right-of-way width from 100 feet to 75 feet at wetland and waterbody crossings, and a proposal to cross Cascade Creek, Wolf Island Creek, and Deep Creek via conventional bore based on recommendations from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Our commitment to safe, responsible construction and operation

Pipelines are recognized by the U.S. Department of Transportation as the safest means to move natural gas. In fact, few may realize that more than 20,000 miles of natural gas pipeline currently operate in Virginia, and more than 30,000 miles of natural gas pipeline currently operate in North Carolina. These pipelines pass through rural, suburban and urban areas in these states.

The MVP Southgate project will connect with existing pipeline systems in Rockingham and Alamance counties in North Carolina. The project team takes its environmental and public safety responsibilities very seriously and is dedicated to meeting or exceeding state and federal requirements. During construction at many smaller waterbodies along the route, we anticipate using the same type of crossing method commonly used in construction of sewer and drinking water lines.

At other, larger waterbodies, including the Dan River, we anticipate using horizontal directional drilling, a laborand time-intensive process that involves drilling beneath the riverbed, thereby avoiding any direct impact to the waterbody. This involves the use of lubricating mud and additives that meet the same standards and specifications of additives used to drill drinking water wells.

## Safety tips for winter travel

Safety is a top priority for the MVP Southgate team, and as winter sets in, we want to help keep our communities safe as they prepare for seasonal travel. Road trips during the holidays and routine daily commutes can become hazardous when the temperatures turn colder and the snow begins to fly. Checking the forecast before heading out on the road can be vital to ensuring safe travels; make sure to observe current conditions and anticipate quick changes in the weather.

## Safety check your car before leaving

Always perform a quick safety check on your car before leaving your driveway.

- Examine tire pressure, test the brakes, and make sure the heater is working properly.
- If snow has fallen, make sure to brush the snow off your car and defrost your windows before driving to ensure maximum visibility.

## A project designed to meet public need for clean, affordable natural gas

The MVP Southgate project's primary objective is to serve customers of PSNC Energy, a local distribution company in North Carolina. The company, which recently opted not to have an affiliate ownership stake in the project, is the anchor shipper on the proposed pipeline. The project is designed to strengthen the reliability of natural gas service in central North Carolina. Additionally, other markets along the project area will have the ability to access the MVP Southgate project, which in turn could attract manufacturing opportunities to the area. Having a safe, reliable source of natural gas is important to secure industry growth and stimulate job creation and spending throughout the region.

"Over the past decade, PSNC Energy has added more than 100,000 new natural gas customers," said Rusty Harris, president and chief operating officer of PSNC Energy. "We are committed to ensuring the highest levels of service to the homes and businesses that rely on natural gas for heating, cooking and other uses, and the MVP Southgate project offers the most efficient and cost-effective way to enhance reliability and provide the diversity of supply needed to meet our customers' needs."

#### WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING...

During the past six months, there has been a lot of talk about the MVP Southgate project in Virginia and North Carolina. Many landowners, community members, and elected officials have expressed both concerns and support for the pipeline through personal meetings, phone calls, emails, and letters to the editor in various publications. In the natural gas industry, the negative stories are often the ones we hear the most, while the positive stories fall by the wayside.

The proposed pipeline will bring economic benefits to Virginia and North Carolina, and to communities located along the route. Here are some comments from supporters of the project that you may not have heard:

"The NC Chamber supports the MVP Southgate project because it will improve access to affordable natural gas and help strengthen North Carolina's reputation as a leading place in the world to do business. Many employers rely on natural gas to fuel their operations and the construction of the MVP Southgate project will bolster efforts to attract and retain businesses in North Carolina." – **Gary Salamido,** *chief operating officer and acting president of the NC Chamber* 

"The proposed MVP Southgate pipeline would increase the region's supply of affordable, reliable and domestic natural gas and provide the fuel needed to meet North Carolinians' current and future energy demands." – Mark Pope, president of the North Carolina Economic Development Association

"Time and again we hear from manufacturers and other large companies that the availability of natural gas is a critical component in the site selection process. The Southern Virginia Mega Site at Berry Hill is the commonwealth's biggest business park, and the MVP Southgate project's proximity to that site offers tremendous long-term economic development opportunities. The Virginia Chamber fully supports the project and the potential benefits its construction and operation could bring." – **Barry DuVal**, president of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce

"The MVP Southgate project is important to the region and to the commonwealth. The efforts undertaken by the project team reflect a commitment to build the proposed pipeline in a safe and respectful manner, and Virginia FREE supports it." – **Chris Saxman**, executive director of Virginia FREE

www.mvpsouthgate.com





# Happy Holidays

#### Your feedback is important to us

In order to access project filings and provide comments, please visit the FERC website at:

https://elibrary.ferc.gov/idmws/docket\_search.asp Reference the docket number: CP19-14

#### Contact the MVP Southgate project team

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