

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 20, 2022

The Honorable Richard Glick
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable Allison Clements
Commissioner
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable James Danly
Commissioner
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable Mark Christie
Commissioner
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

The Honorable Willie Phillips
Commissioner
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Chairman Glick:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is tasked with “assisting consumers in obtaining reliable, safe, secure, and economically efficient energy services at a reasonable cost.”¹ At a time when energy prices are soaring, it is imperative that FERC works to accelerate the development of domestic energy infrastructure so that Americans may have access to a reliable and affordable supply of natural gas. We therefore urge FERC to support the completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) and approve its pending request for a four-year extension.²

The United States is a world-leader in natural gas production, and as the conflict in Ukraine continues, the United States should use every tool at its disposal to make up for the shortfall in the global natural gas supply for our allies and trading partners. Natural gas produced in the Appalachian Basin is undoubtedly part of that solution.

¹ Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, About FERC, *available at* <https://www.ferc.gov/what-ferc>.

² Letter from Matthew T. Eggerding, Assistant General Counsel, Equitrans, to Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (June 24, 2022), *available at* https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/filelist?accession_number=20220624-5134.

In fact, according to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), the Appalachian Basin would have been the third-largest natural gas producing nation in the world the first half of 2021, behind Russia and the rest of the United States.³ MVP is designed to transport 2 billion cubic feet (Bcf) per day of that natural gas 304 miles from West Virginia to southern Virginia. While MVP would not deliver natural gas directly to an export terminal, completion of the pipeline will certainly help to meet increasing domestic demand for natural gas and unlock other supplies of natural gas to send to our allies.

MVP is nearly 94% constructed but is still subject to ongoing litigation and permit challenges, to the detriment of American consumers, our national security, communities along the pipeline route, and the environment. This project must be completed. FERC previously issued a two-year permit extension for MVP until October 13, 2022. While MVP has now requested a four-year extension, the developers have demonstrated their determination to complete the pipeline as soon as practicable to help bring needed natural gas to market soon, should FERC approve the extension request and other necessary approvals be re-issued. Indeed, MVP is targeting in-service in the second half of next year.⁴

Your approval of this extension request will also provide certainty to communities and landowners along the pipeline's path that FERC intends for the MVP to be completed. West Virginians have told us that they want to see the project completed, their properties restored, and the benefits of the project accrue for their communities.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Joe Manchin III
United States Senator



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator



Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress

³ Corrina Ricker & Warren Wilczewski, *Shale natural gas production in Appalachian Basin sets records in first half of 2021*, U.S. Energy Information Administration (Sept. 1, 2021), available at <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=49377>.

⁴ Corey Paul, *Mountain Valley Pipeline wants permit extension until 2026 to finish last elements*, S&P Global, Commodity Insight (June 27, 2022), available at <https://www.spglobal.com/commodityinsights/en/market-insights/latest-news/natural-gas/062722-mountain-valley-pipeline-wants-permit-extension-until-2026-to-finish-last-elements>.