

Pipeline Regulatory Delays Threaten Jobs and Undermine Confidence in Regulatory Process for All Infrastructure, says Coalition of Energy Infrastructure Workers and Businesses

Coalition Representing Workers and Businesses of the Energy Supply Chain Asks Virginia Governor Ralph Northam to Reaffirm U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permits

Richmond, VA – A recent ruling that could lead to reassessment of key permits for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP) threatens thousands of jobs, harms the economy, and undermines the regulatory process, a coalition of more than 25 trade organizations and labor unions representing workers and businesses said [in a letter to Virginia Governor Ralph Northam](#). The ruling by the Virginia State Water Control Board opens the door to reassessment of construction permits already issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

“This damages Virginia’s reputation as a business-friendly state and undermines confidence in the regulatory process,” said Gordon Dixon, Chief Executive Officer of Associated General Contractors of Virginia. “Businesses and workers who build and provide equipment, materials, supplies, and services to infrastructure projects are in jeopardy after more than three years of rigorous safety planning and regulatory oversight.”

Federal permits were issued for ACP after the project’s developers spent more than three years devising the safest and most environmentally responsible route for the pipeline, studying more than 6,000 miles of potential routes before choosing the best 600-mile route with the least impact. More than 300 route adjustments were made to avoid environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, wildlife habitats, drinking water sources and sensitive geologic features.

“If this opposition rearguard action were to stand, permits for any Virginia construction project involving water crossings, including roads, bridges, electric transmission lines or virtually any form of infrastructure can now be called into question,” added Toby Mack, President of Energy Equipment and Infrastructure Alliance, a trade association representing the energy infrastructure supply chain. “We urge Governor Northam to encourage state regulators to reaffirm the previously-issued permits and allow construction to continue as planned for the benefit of all Virginians.”

ACP will benefit state and local economies and increase the availability of more affordable and cleaner burning natural gas:

- ACP will create over 17,000 jobs from construction subcontractors and equipment sellers to hotels and restaurants.
- Generate \$28 million a year in local tax revenue for schools, roads, public safety and other vital local services.

- Save \$377 million a year in energy cost savings, all while using cleaner-burning natural gas.

About Energy Builders

Energy Builders is a community-based coalition of workers, families and businesses dedicated to educating friends, neighbors and elected officials about the importance and benefits of energy infrastructure and its ongoing development. Energy Builders' members are people and businesses who make their livings in the energy supply chain, building the infrastructure necessary to produce and deliver America's energy. The industry sector provides over a million good jobs with a massive economic footprint throughout America.