



PMCVA is a local grassroots movement working with other local, regional, and national organizations to stop the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline and to promote environmental justice.

Our ongoing mission is vigilance, education, and mobilization for and by citizens of Montgomery County about broader pipeline issues that affect us all. We aim to prevent our area from becoming a sacrifice zone, or "a geographic area that has been permanently impaired by environmental damage or economic disinvestment."

This organization was formed to unite citizens of Montgomery County, Virginia, to oppose all new natural gas pipelines. We are organized at the county level, and we work in cooperation with other groups in Virginia and West Virginia to fight high pressure, large diameter gas pipelines and their assault on the environment.

PMCVA is concerned about the negative impacts of fracked gas production and its transmission through pipelines. The primary issues facing the people of the New River Valley are potential air and water pollution, safety concerns, and the abuse of eminent domain by energy companies who are seeking exceptional profits at the expense of economic growth, natural beauty, and important historical and cultural aspects of the region. Our organization seeks to promote development of renewable energy in place of fossil fuels and to dispel the widely promoted misconception of natural gas as "clean energy."



Visit the PMCVA website online at www.preservemontgomerycountyva.org. Here you can check out our calendar of events, including community meetings; explore important issues such as citizens rights, environmental concerns, economic impacts, dangers of fracking, and public safety; read research articles about fracking and pipeline problems; and view up-to-date maps for pipeline routes. You will also find web addresses for other affected stakeholders, and environmental groups.

◆ **Attend a community meeting.** Come to a meeting to learn more about local initiatives and to stay current on efforts to stop MVP. Bring your friends who are affected, too!

◆ **Write to FERC.** At our website, learn all

about the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and how it makes decisions about the MVP. Write letters to them voicing your opposition to the pipeline and your reasons. Instructions are on our website.

◆ **Contact your politicians.** Voice objections to the MVP by writing to your Senators and Congressional representatives, the Virginia Governor, and your local and state representatives. Addresses are available on our website.

◆ **Donate.** PMCVA is able to operate because of donations, by concerned citizens who object to the dangerous MVP pipeline being built through our community. Please make a tax deductible donation by sending a check made out to Virginia Organizing to PMCVA, PO Box 10623, Blacksburg, VA, 24062.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE WANTS TO MAKE MONTGOMERY COUNTY A SACRIFICE ZONE



Preserve Montgomery County VA aims to prevent our area from becoming a sacrifice zone, or "a geographic area that has been permanently impaired by environmental damage or economic disinvestment."

You are not powerless in the face of "Big Energy" companies that want to lay waste to the quality of life valued by the communities of Southwest Virginia.

Join us! Read on or visit us online to learn more.

www.preservemontgomerycountyva.org

MOUNTAIN VALLEY PIPELINE WANTS TO MAKE MONTGOMERY COUNTY A

SACRIFICE ZONE



1 DON'T SACRIFICE THE VALUE OF YOUR PROPERTY

A 125-foot wide gash across the land destroys ground-cover, trees, and forest habitats in national forests and along the Appalachian Trail. This will negatively affect tourism since vistas and recreation activities would be diminished. This detrimental economic impact to the region will be our legacy.

Similarly, residential property values in communities affected by the pipeline will likely diminish, caused by fear of gas line explosions, pollution of well water, and easements not used for original purposes. Properties may take longer to sell. This has already been noted in some communities. Mortgages may be affected because some companies may interpret a gas pipeline as a hazardous substance. Already some deeds have been invalidated or the mortgage category has been changed from residential. And homeowner insurance companies may decide not to write insurance for a home or exclude property damage losses since the presence of a pipeline can be classified as environmental contamination. Finally, these devalued properties will affect county property tax revenues.

2 DON'T SACRIFICE THE ENVIRONMENT

MVP is paying no attention to groundwater features that may allow water contamination during or after construction of the pipeline. The pipeline is being placed along the karst topography and the Giles County Seismic Zone where a collapse of geologic structures could result in leaks or ruptures, releasing chemicals that poison aquifers and kill fish and aquatic life. Blasting rock may cause cracked water tables and disturb sediment that can make wells unusable or dry. Pipeline construction in national forests may fragment animal habitats of species, endangering some species and destroying ecosystems. Gas leaks may cause forest fires, and scenic routes such as the Appalachian Trail may be compromised.

3 DON'T SACRIFICE YOUR HEALTH

Potential health risks remain a serious concern since natural gas pipelines transport contents that contain toxic compounds such as radon and benzene. Scientific studies indicate leakage occurs during transmission, storage, and distribution of natural gas. Even small amounts of certain chemicals can cause infertility and birth defects. Compressor stations, like the one proposed in Montgomery County, are noisy industrial complexes that cause sky glow at night and run 24 hours a day. They routinely release methane and volatile organic compounds. Other pollutants, such as propane, butane, isobutene, and pentanes are all hydrocarbons that impact children with asthma. Regular compressor blow-downs are the worst polluters, releasing an average of 15,000 cubic feet of methane each time they occur.

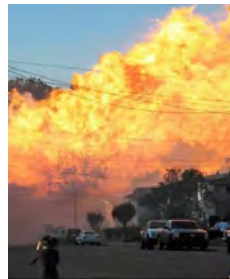


4 DON'T SACRIFICE YOUR PROPERTY RIGHTS

Eminent domain in Virginia is defined as the power to take or damage private property for a public use, provided that the owner is paid just compensation. The power of eminent domain allows certain entities to acquire private property from a property owner even if the owner does not wish to sell. A 2012 Virginia constitutional amendment prevents eminent domain from being used for private enterprise, job creation, tax revenue generation, or economic development. It may only be used to take private land for public use. Because MVP has admitted that some of the gas will be sold overseas, some property owners feel strongly that a private company does not have the right to take their land without permission. Courts are now considering lawsuits brought by property owners.

5 DON'T SACRIFICE YOUR LIFE

People think natural gas pipelines are safe, but there have been at least 10,613 significant accidents from 1994-2013 with 1,421 injuries and 374 deaths. Of course, all accidents are not reported. A blast radius or "incinerator zone" for a 42-inch pipeline is 1,100 feet. An explosion at this distance could destroy neighborhoods and start forest fires.



6 DON'T SACRIFICE YOUR CULTURE

A compressor station will result in the destruction of an important part of Virginia's historic, prehistoric, and cultural record. It would level and impose "industrialization" on 100 acres of land—including prehistoric sites and buildings from the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Montgomery County's significant contributions to our understanding of Native and African American prehistory, Southern Appalachia, and the Upper South would be lost—and would not be available for study in the future.