

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20426

**ASSOCIATED
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November 20, 2015

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Creigh Deeds
P.O. Box 5462
Charlottesville, VA 22905

Dear Senator Deeds:

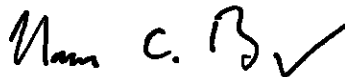
Thank you for your November 6, 2015, letter regarding Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC's (ACP) proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project (Docket No. CP15-554-000).

The Commission began its review of this project on November 13, 2014, when we approved ACP's request to use our pre-filing process. After many months in pre-filing, ACP filed its application on September 18, 2015. Commission staff is now in the process of reviewing the application and its supplements, which will result in the publication of an environmental impact statement.

Because the Commission does not direct the development of the gas industry's infrastructure, either on a broad regional basis or in the design of specific projects and does not engage in regional planning exercises that would result in the selection of one project over another, Commission staff has not determined that it would be appropriate to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement. However, Commission staff will prepare an environmental impact statement that will be published and distributed for public comment, and will analyze both the project-specific impacts of the ACP and the cumulative impacts of other actions affecting the environment in the region. The Commission will consider the findings of the environmental impact statement before making its decision on whether to authorize this project.

As in any Commission matter, please be assured that we strive to make our review of proposals accessible and transparent to the public. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Norman C. Bay
Chairman

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