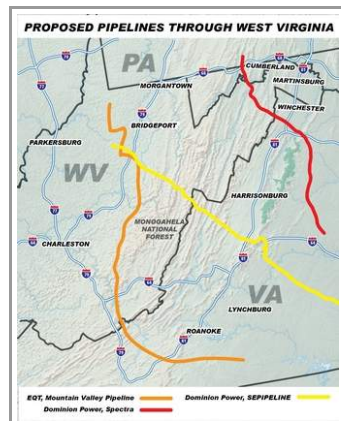


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Proposed pipelines to be discussed at Pocahontas commission meeting

By Rick Steelhammer



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A proposed pipeline that would carry natural gas from the Appalachian Marcellus and Utica shale production regions through Pocahontas County and the Monongahela National Forest to markets in Virginia and North Carolina will be discussed during a July 1 Pocahontas County Commission meeting, according to the conservation group “WV Wilderness Lovers vs. Proposed Pipelines.”

Dominion Resources Inc. has announced tentative plans for a 450-mile, 42-inch diameter “Southeast Reliability Project” gas line that would extend from Harrison County through the mountains of Randolph and Pocahontas counties, into Virginia and on to Lumberton, N.C.

Although a final alignment for the proposed line has not been determined, a tentative corridor through which the line would pass parallels U.S. 250 between Huttonsville and Monterrey, Va., and passes near the Camp Allegheny and Camp Bartow Civil War sites, according to a press release from the conservation group.

“WV Wilderness Lovers vs. Proposed Pipelines” also voiced concerns over preliminary plans by Equitable Corporation and NextEra U.S. Gas Assets LLC to build a 330-mile Mountain Valley Pipeline that would initially carry at least 2 billion cubic feet per day from the community of Mobley in Wetzel County southward to a Transcontinental Gas Pipeline compressor station in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, and to a plan by Spectra Energy of Houston, to develop a \$4 billion pipeline that would carry gas from Pennsylvania southward through Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina. The line would traverse Hampshire County, the only West Virginia county included on the route.

Although the developers of the proposed pipelines hope to see them completed by 2017 or 2018, all routes are subject to approval by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other state, federal and local agencies.

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