

SUPPORT HB 1141

Interstate natural gas pipeline; Virginia Water Protection Permit; regulations.

Patron - Rasoul

Reasons to support HB 1141:

- **Protecting Water Quality Requires Complete Information** – We don't know the precise impacts pipeline construction will have on water quality unless we review all relevant information. HB 1141 would require the State Water Control Board to analyze all critical information before it issues a permit for an interstate natural gas pipeline.
- **Preserve state authority** – Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act grants states broad authority to veto an interstate natural gas pipeline project if it would violate

Overview

The proposed Atlantic Coast and Mountain Valley pipelines would cross hundreds of miles of steep mountain slopes and porous karst terrain in the western parts of Virginia, where contamination from the construction process poses a significant threat to the quality of streams, wetlands, and private drinking wells.

In 2017, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) created a review process for the State Water Control Board to permit interstate natural gas pipelines. This process excluded highly critical information from the Board's review.

HB 1141 would require the Board to analyze all critical information before it issues a permit for an interstate natural gas pipeline. It would require both a Virginia Water Protection Permit and a Water Quality Certification under Clean Water Act § 401.

Specifically, HB 1141:

- Prohibits the Board from waiving its authority under Clean Water Act § 401



**Appalachian
Voices**

This position was taken by Peter Anderson on behalf of the Virginia Conservation Network (VCN). For a complete list of supporters, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated network of people protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.
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**Virginia Conservation
Network**

VCN is a non-profit organization that is the Virginia Conservation Network's governing body and is responsible for the organization's operations. For a complete list of supporters, visit www.vcnva.org/bill-tracker. VCN is committed to building a powerful, diverse, and highly-coordinated network of people protecting our Commonwealth's natural resources today and for tomorrow.

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