



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Monongahela National Forest

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**File Code:** 1900; 2700  
**Date:** September 1, 2016

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First St., N.E., Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Ms. Bose:

**Subject:** Comments on the Macroinvertebrate Report on the George Washington National Forest  
OEP/DG2E/Gas 4  
Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC  
Docket Nos. CP15-554-000 and CP15-554-001

The Forest Service submits comments on the Macroinvertebrate Report submitted to the Forest Service on July 29, 2016 and filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on July 29, 2016, by Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC (ACP) for the proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline Project (ACP Project). The proposed ACP Project would affect National Forest System (NFS) lands in the Monongahela National Forest and George Washington National Forest.

We appreciate the thorough nature of the Macroinvertebrate Report on baseline benthic macroinvertebrate surveys for streams crossed by AP-1 in Bath and Highland Counties. This report provides valuable information regarding impacts to stream habitat quality, as compared to post-project monitoring samples to be collected by ACP if the proposed project is approved.

Laurel Run was not surveyed for baseline benthic macroinvertebrates because of access issues, despite the fact that the stream is accessible, as it was accessed to survey for fish and mussels (see Summary Report of Habitat Assessments and Surveys of Forest Sensitive Fishes and Freshwater Mussels submitted, filed with FERC on August 22, 2016). Access is available to Laurel Run via NFS lands where State Route 614 crosses that stream; it is a little over a mile downstream from the proposed pipeline crossing and at the location of the proposed access road. It would be a suitable location for a monitoring site. Streams that have not yet been surveyed must be surveyed at a later time, with approval for the timing of the surveys by the GWNF Aquatics Biologist.



Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary

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For questions, please contact Jennifer Adams, Special Project Coordinator, by phone at (540) 265-5114 or by email at [jenniferpadams@fs.fed.us](mailto:jenniferpadams@fs.fed.us).

Sincerely,

  
CLYDE THOMPSON  
Forest Supervisor

cc: Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC

Document Content(s)

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