

December 13, 2021
For Immediate Release

**Wild Virginia Submits Information to State Water Control Board
Records Show MVP Violations on Much Greater Scale than Previously Reported**

On December 13, 2021 [Wild Virginia sent a letter and a new report](#) to the members of the Virginia State Water Control Board, with an analysis of a huge body of information on Mountain Valley Pipeline's record of violations of state water quality requirements.

Wild Virginia is asking the Board to accept the report and consider the information when it votes on MVP's request for a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification tomorrow.

As stated in the letter to the Board: "As you know, the Board's long-standing practice has been to allow the public to speak to the agency's responses to public comments at the meeting where your decisions are made. We contend that testimony within this limited scope is useful for the Board and that fairness to the public should justify this step."

The Department of Environmental quality has claimed to the Board that the public has "intentionally fail[ed] to accurately characterize" the nature of violations alleged by the state in an enforcement case brought in state court in 2018. David Sligh, Wild Virginia's Conservation Director, stated: "it is unacceptable to allow the DEQ to make this accusation, that members of the public have tried to mislead the Board, and not give us the chance to respond."

The report Wild Virginia has prepared concludes the following, based on an examination of thousands of state reports and records.

MVP has violated rules imposed by the Board's water quality certification for upland activities at least 1,500 times.

This number eclipses the total of 396 violations the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has alleged.

The record shows the following:

- MVP has deposited sediment off of its construction sites at least 569 times. At least 100 of those off-site releases have deposited sediments in streams or wetlands.
- In more than 360 instances, MVP has failed to install pollution controls in accordance with state-approved plans. 37 of these occurred in spring and summer of 2021.
- In at least 553 instances, MVP failed to meet deadlines to fix deficiencies in pollution controls.

Wild Virginia contends that a finding of reasonable assurance that MVP would meet requirements under a new water quality certification for waterbody crossings, given this record

of violations cannot be support. We ask the Board to insist on strong action by DEQ to stop the violations and to reject MVP's proposal, which would threaten many more of our waters.

The State Water Control Board will meet in Richmond tomorrow. More information can be accessed at: <https://townhall.virginia.gov/L/ViewMeeting.cfm?MeetingID=33335>.