

far outweigh these benefits. The MVP is unlikely to benefit anyone except to produce corporate profit for EQT Corporation

The current proposed route of this pipeline is less than one mile from James Monroe High School. We have heard from engineers that a high pressure line of this nature is likely to leak at times. Every year, gas pipelines across the US fail, sometimes catastrophically. A 20 inch pipeline exploded in 2012 in Sissonville, WV resulting in a massive explosion. Should a 42 inch pipeline explode in close proximity to a public school, the potential consequences are unthinkable. This is an unnecessary and unacceptable risk. A pipeline of this nature should be allowed no closer to any public school than a five to ten mile radius.

Lastly, the current proposed route of the pipeline travels through the protected watershed areas of the Red Sulphur Public Service District and the watershed in Coulter's Chapel. In the Coulter's Chapel area its route is through the "Zone of Critical Concern" north of the Peterstown area. The proposed route is only a few hundred yards from the headwaters of Rich Creek. The Red Sulphur PSD is considered a surface water facility. A massive excavation in this area has the potential to disrupt underground and surface water channels permanently, potentially compromising the water supply of over 4,000 people. This is nearly one third of the population of Monroe County

EQT Corporation has a history of questionable ethics, business practices and environmental lack of responsibility. One article reported that EQT Production (a division of EQT Corporation) is facing six criminal charges in Pennsylvania stemming from their hydraulic fracturing operation in Tioga, PA. In addition, the State Dept of Environmental Protection in PA has filed a complaint seeking a \$ 4.5 million civil penalty against EQT Corporation for what the state called a "major pollution incident" in Tioga, PA. EQT was also defendant in a class action suit filed by several counties in Virginia. Residents in much of Monroe County recently experienced first-hand the deceptive, uncaring and, at times blatantly false promises and agreements of a gas company. EQT Corporation is not an entity that is likely to be a good business partner for Monroe County.

While we definitely need economic development and more progressive thinking in our county, we should not be misled into thinking the MVP project will result in any significant, long term improvement. We do not gain by allowing our people and resources to be exploited for corporate profit. Any financial gain which may result either directly or indirectly from this project will be more than offset by lost revenue from land use, negative impact on real estate, negative impact on property owners being able to borrow against their properties and the potential for negative impact on local banks.

The public is urged to contact our state representatives, Delegates John O'Neal and Roy Cooper and Senators Ronald Miller and William Laird and our local County Commissioners. Contact our local board of education to voice concerns over proximity of the pipeline to public schools. Complaints and concerns should also be made directly to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) at www.FERC.gov.

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