

*This letter to the editor appeared in The Monroe Watchman 12/18/2014. Reprinted with permission.*



## Letter to the Editor from Dr. Stephen Miller

### An Open Letter to Fox59:

Dear Mr. Durham,

I am a resident of Monroe County and it was brought to my attention that Fox59 reported on the "Economic Benefits" statement recently released by EQT Corporation regarding the Mountain Valley Pipeline project.

I believe EQT Corporation is attempting to mislead the public about potential economic benefits of this pipeline in order to garner public support.

Residents of Monroe County have been advised that the residents, not EQT Corporation, are still responsible for paying property taxes, even if the pipeline passes through their property. In fact, this is pointed out in one of the information packets distributed by EQT Corporation. The only tax benefit Monroe County will receive, according to our assessor, is \$8,000 to \$9,000 per year initially on the pipeline itself. This number will decrease yearly as it is depreciated.

There is currently strong and widespread public opposition to this pipeline passing through Monroe County. There will be a public meeting at James Monroe High School on Thursday, Jan. 8, 2015 at 7:00 pm. This is the third public meeting on this issue, and a large turnout is anticipated. I would like to invite you to cover this event.

I would also encourage you to cover this issue and help dispel misleading information that is being published and provided to the media by EQT Corporation. When you begin to examine this project more closely, it is likely to provide minimal benefit to not only

Monroe County, but all of West Virginia. All evidence points to the natural gas produced from this project being exported and little or none for domestic use.

Mr. Durham, thank you for taking time to read this. Residents in southern West Virginia are desperate to have media coverage to provide more factual information to the public. I am attaching an article I recently provided to our local newspaper, The Monroe Watchman.

If you would like to speak to me about this matter, I can be reached at the following.

Thank you.

*Dr. Stephen Miller*

*The Monroe Watchman (1872-2014) is published weekly.*

*Dr. H. Craig Mohler, Editor*

*For subscription information contact The Monroe Watchman, PO Box 179, Union, WV 24963  
phone: 304-772-3016 -- email: watchman2@earthlink.net*