

ORIGINAL



**NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality**

ROY COOPER
Governor

MICHAEL S. REGAN
Secretary

September 4, 2018

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE Room 1A
Washington, D.C. 20426

FILED
SECRETARY OF THE
COMMISSION

2018 SEP 11 P 4:12

FEDERAL ENERGY
REGULATORY COMMISSION

Re: Request for Extension of Comment Period Regarding Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Planned MVP Southgate Project, and Request for Comments on Environmental Issues, and Notice of Public Scoping Session
Docket Number: PF18-4-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) would like to request a 60-day extension on the due date to file comments on the scoping process to inform the development of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Southgate Project. Notice of the start of the comment period was made on August 15, 2018 by publication in the Federal Register. Twenty-seven days is simply an inadequate period of time for our Agency and other stakeholders to evaluate the Project and provide substantive comments that inform the development and scope of the EIS. Furthermore, as an informal participating agency, the DEQ and other State agencies are presently reviewing the 12 Project Draft Resource Reports, which will significantly contribute to the basis of our EIS comments.

Given the complexity of the Project, taken together with the issues outlined above, we respectfully request that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission extend the period to file comments on the EIS scoping process for an additional 60 days.

Sincerely,

Sheila C. Holman
Assistant Secretary for the Environment

SH/lh



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