

Mountain Valley Pipeline Loses another Key Permit Weeks after Sierra Club Files Lawsuit

On August 28, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), the federal agency in charge of approving interstate pipelines, asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to reinitiate consultation to re-evaluate its Incidental Biological Opinion and Take Statement under Endangered Species Act for the fracked gas Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP), thereby invalidating its current major permit. Because MVP now has lost another key authorization, all work should stop immediately. This announcement came one week after a coalition of conservation groups led by Sierra Club [requested a stay](#) while a federal court reviews [their legal challenge](#) to the Service's approval for the 303-mile pipeline.

The invalidation of the MVP's key permit comes just over one month after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the same court where Sierra Club is challenging the MVP permit, [vacated](#) the same permit issued by the Service for the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP), saying the Service "lost its mandate" when it rushed its approval process to help meet ACP construction deadlines. Continued legal setbacks, ballooning costs of both pipelines, and growing opposition by the public has led some to doubt whether the pipelines, [particularly the ACP](#), will ever be built.

Join Sierra Club at the Fourth Annual Hands Across the Appalachian Trail on September 28 and 29!

Join your friends and neighbors at the Fourth Annual Hands Across the Appalachian Trail! Be part of this special weekend of events across the state on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29, as we work to protect our communities, water, air, land and natural treasures from the threats posed by unneeded and harmful fracked gas pipelines. The [northern Virginia event](#) will be on Sunday, 9/28 at the iconic Bears Den in Bluemont, VA. Enjoy a free picnic, live music, and breathtaking scenery along the AT!

The Mountain Valley and Atlantic Coast pipelines propose to cross several nationally known and highly popular public recreational areas including the George Washington National Forest, the Blue Ridge Parkway, the Great Eastern Trail, and - the Appalachian Trail. The dedicated work of volunteers, community groups, allies, legal advocates and individuals has led to Stop Work Orders and further delays of the pipelines, and the efforts to stop these fracked-gas project continues.

The Sunday, September 29 event will take place at:

Bears Den

18393 Blue Ridge Mountain Road, Bluemont, VA 20135, 11am-1pm

For more information about the Bears Dens Hands Across the AT event, contact:

Billy Davies at william.davies@sierraclub.org, 847-636-3642

For information about attending the 9/28 events in [central](#) or [southwest](#) Virginia, contact:

Jessica Sims at Jessica.sims@sierraclub.org, 804-366-0745