

From: Durwood Stephenson <durwoodus70@gmail.com>
Date: November 30, 2017 at 10:53:27 AM EST
To: undisclosed-recipients;;
Subject: ACP

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Durwood Stephenson <durwoodus70@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Nov 30, 2017 at 10:19 AM
Subject: ACP
To: David <David.Fountain@duke-energy.com>, frank.yoho@duke-energy.com
Cc: larry.wooten@ncfb.org, "tolson.norris" <Tolson.Norris@gmail.com>

TO: David Fountain – David.Fountain@duke-energy.com
N.C. President Duke Energy

Frank Yoho – frank.yoho@duke-energy.com
President, Piedmont Natural Gas

FROM: M. Durwood Stephenson

DATE: November 30, 2017

RE: ACP

On behalf of Farm Bureau President, Larry Wooten, Norris Tolson, CEO, Carolinas Gateway Partnership and myself, we deeply appreciate the two of you sharing your time on Wednesday, November 22 and allowing us to express our concerns with the construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline through Eastern North Carolina. As you are aware, we are strong advocates for the pipeline and have been diligently promoting the pipeline with its promise of jobs and economic development opportunities for a region in need of every available resource to improve the economics and future of Eastern North Carolina.

However, we are concerned as access costs have been identified and, quite frankly, are beyond the means of our farmers and citizens and excessive for economic development prospects. The gas to farm \$ 25 million fund you noted has strict access requirements; i.e. 1200 job minimums and large investment requirements. Also, the fund is inadequate to provide sufficient taps and distribution lines.

As Norris suggested, a significant fund modeled after the Clean Water Trust Fund Act funded by Duke, Old Dominion, Piedmont and State of North Carolina of approximately \$ 100 million will provide jobs and economic development opportunities to this region. Without this fund the pipeline will become an asset for Duke and Old Dominion with little benefit to local consumers and economic development interests.

In our meeting, we duly noted that we do not speak for anyone except the interests we identified and noted. In my ad for ACP, I ask for Governor Cooper's support. I have personally and publicly asked for the support of Governor Cooper and his administration; however, I have suggested that support and approval be contingent upon transitioning the gas line to consumers. During our conversation, we repeatedly quoted our needs and continuing support is contingent upon availability, accessibility and affordability.

President Wooten has voiced his support and has encouraged the farm community to support the pipeline. Norris Tolson has endorsed the pipeline and encouraged several economic development prospects to seriously consider North Carolina with a promise of natural gas. I have promoted and encouraged support throughout the region as a jobs creator and another economic development tool. If we cannot fund the transition to farmers, developers and citizens, President Wooten, Mr. Tolson and I will have lost credibility with these groups.

As we clearly noted, we do not speak for anyone other than ourselves and certainly not for Governor Cooper or his Administration.

I am certain Governor Cooper supports jobs and development, but do not encourage him to risk his credibility until the jobs and development issues are resolved and assured.

Again, we thank you for your time and are hopeful, you understand and appreciate the issues we raised.

In view of the proposed time schedule, I urge you to seriously consider the issues we raised with availability, accessibility and affordability promptly.

In the necessity of transparency, please note this email was prepared by me personally without consultation with Mr. Wooten or Mr. Tolson but I believe clearly reinforces the message we delivered on November 22.

cc: Larry Wooten, President
E. Norris Tolson

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