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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

June 29, 2023

The Honorable Willie Phillips
Chairman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20426

Dear Chairman Phillips,

I write to urge the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the comment deadline related to a request from Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) for an extension of the Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for the MVP Southgate pipeline.

Given the substantial permitting and legal challenges to MVP and MVP Southgate, I request FERC provide a 45-calendar day comment period to allow affected communities sufficient time to voice their concerns about this project. The current 15-day comment period over a Federal holiday is an extraordinarily short timeline to receive sufficient community input—especially since many rural communities impacted lack the broadband internet access necessary for timely notification about the proposed extension. It is imperative that impacted communities have the appropriate amount of time to meaningfully participate in this process.

Over the last several years, there has been broad public opposition to MVP Southgate. Constituents from impacted areas and beyond have indicated MVP Southgate poses unreasonable risks to communities and the environment. These issues include threats to water resources in Virginia and North Carolina. Notably, the Virginia State Conference NAACP raised concerns about the potential harms of the Lambert Compressor Station to the local community, which includes a significant number of Black residents.¹

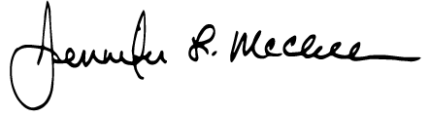
All communities deserve the right to breathe clean air and drink clean water, and the Federal government has a responsibility to ensure that voices from the most affected communities are heard in decision-making processes. As such, I urge FERC to extend the deadline for public

¹ www.southernenvironment.org/press-release/selc-naacp-act-to-defend-environmental-justice-denial-of-lambert-compressor-station-permit

comment on this extension request to allow more time for the public and impacted stakeholders to consider the proposal. Failure to do so would inevitably silence the voices of too many in these communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring this to your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jennifer L. McClellan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress