

Support HB646

Short Title: Pipeline construction permit; amount of civil penalty for violation

Patron: Delegate Chris L. Hurst

Reasons to Support HB646:

HB646 would reinforce the most stringent and safest permitting processes available to protect water quality.

- Increasing the penalty for violations of a natural gas transmission pipeline permit would ensure that more emphasis is put on following guidelines set in the permit.
- With the increase in penalties, the water quality of where the pipelines are constructed will be better protected.
- Citizens that live near a pipeline under construction will have more assurance that their water quality is not being affected by the project.

Overview:

HB 646 authorizes an increase in the fine for each violation and for each order. The Water Control Board could administer greater fines for violations of a permit related to the construction of a natural gas transmission pipeline greater than 36 inches inside diameter. The maximum fine would increase from \$32,500 to \$50,000 per violation. Also, the maximum fine would increase from \$100,000 to not exceeding \$500,000 per order in any order for a violation of a permit.



Corrina Beall
Legislative & Political Director, Virginia Chapter
100 West Franklin Street, Mezzanine
Richmond, Virginia 23220
corrina.beall@sierraclub.org
804.687.8108 (m)



Pat Calvert
Campaign & Policy Manager – Land & Water
103 E Main St, Suite 1
Richmond, Virginia 23219
pat@vcnva.org
434.484.0804 (m)