

Virginia Gas Pipeline Opponents Invite “Keystone Killer” Jane Kleeb to Speak at Public Events

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 20, 2016

WHAT: Jane Kleeb to address Mountain Valley Pipeline property owners, their supporters and general public at three separate events. Will also meets Atlantic Coast Pipeline opponents.

WHEN: Friday, April 22: 10am in Boones Mill, 12-Noon in Roanoke and 2:30pm at Virginia Tech.

WHERE: Downtown Roanoke, Virginia Tech Campus and Boones Mill, VA. (Details below)

CONTACTS:

Lorne Stockman: 540-679-1097 lorne [at] priceofoil.org for interviews with Jane.

Carolyn Reilly: (540) 488-4358 carolyn [at] fourcornersfarm.com for the Boones Mill event.

Dan Crawford: 540-343-05080 dbcrawford [at] cox.net for the Roanoke event.

Russel Chisholm: 540-404-2727 coffeeslinger [at] [gmail.com](mailto:) for the Virginia Tech event.

Community groups across Virginia who are fighting the Mountain Valley and Atlantic Coast pipelines have invited Jane Kleeb (pronounced “Kleb”) to Virginia to share her experience of bringing together an unlikely alliance of landowners, farmers, ranchers and Tribal Nations to fight the Keystone XL pipeline.

Kleeb is president of Bold Nebraska and the Bold Alliance (see below for details). She earned the nickname "Keystone Killer" in *Rolling Stone Magazine* for her role in successfully stopping the Keystone XL pipeline in Nebraska.

As Virginia landowners and pipeline opponents prepare for an intensifying fight this summer to keep the proposed Mountain Valley and Atlantic Coast interstate natural gas pipelines off their property and out of the fragile Appalachian mountain landscape, they are increasingly reaching out across the nation to connect with fellow pipeline fighters to share experiences and skills.

“The landowners in Virginia are organized and ready to stop the risky natural gas pipelines being recklessly planned through their beautiful mountains and valleys and forced through their properties against their will,” Kleeb says. “I am excited to share ideas and best practices to ensure their property rights and water are protected. When citizens stand up together, their small but mighty force will always beat big corporations like Dominion, Duke and EQT.”

Kleeb will be meeting publicly and privately with landowners and organizers opposing the Mountain Valley and Atlantic Coast pipeline proposals. On Friday, April 22nd, Earth Day, she will meet with landowners along the Mountain Valley Pipeline route. There will be three public events open to the press. The events will begin with a public community meeting for landowners, residents and concerned citizens at 10 AM in Boones Mill. At noon in Roanoke, there will be a rally outside the Unitarian Universalist Church in downtown Roanoke (inside the building in case of rain). At 2:30, Kleeb will be in Blacksburg to give a presentation to Virginia Tech students as well as affected landowners from Montgomery and Giles counties and other members of the public.

Kleeb will also meet with landowners and organizers resisting the Atlantic Coast Pipeline in Augusta and Nelson counties over the weekend. She will participate in a "Pipeline Summit" being held in Augusta County and sponsored by the Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance, a coalition of 49 groups opposing the Atlantic Coast Pipeline, and POWHR, a coalition of organizations opposing the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

Affected Franklin County landowner Carolyn Reilly and organizer with the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League said: "We are truly inspired by Jane's work and are excited to host her here in Franklin and Roanoke counties. We are working to repeat her victory here in Virginia!"

"We look forward to meeting with Jane, and aim to learn from her experience to help unite our precious communities in this struggle, and build on her energy and enthusiasm as we prepare to take this fight to the next level," said Nancy Sorrells, co-chair of the Augusta County Alliance.

Augusta County has more proposed miles of Dominion's Atlantic Coast Pipeline, well over 50, than any other county in Virginia and its people and properties will be deeply impacted by the pipeline.

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Information

Bold Nebraska is a grassroots group formed by Jane Kleeb to help organize an "unlikely alliance" of farmers, ranchers, Tribal Nations and everyday citizens fighting to stop TransCanada's Keystone XL tar sands export pipeline. Bold Nebraska is now building the Bold Alliance, a coalition of "small and mighty" groups in rural states (NE, IA, LA, OK) to fight Big Oil, protect landowners against the abuse of eminent domain, and work for clean energy solutions while building a political base of voters who care about the land and water.

Organizations and groups supporting this initiative include:

Preserve Bent Mountain, Preserve Franklin County, Preserve Giles County, Preserve Roanoke, Preserve Craig County, Preserve Montgomery County, Virginia Sierra Club, Oil Change International, Bold Alliance, Appalachian Mountain Advocates, Appalachian Voices, Allegheny Blue Ridge Alliance, Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League, Chesapeake Climate Action.

Venues:

Boones Mill (10am) Heatherwood Apartments, Community Room, 1009 Heatherwood Drive
Boones Mill, VA 24065

Roanoke (12pm) Unitarian Universalist Church, 2015 Grandin Rd. S.W. Roanoke, VA 24015

Virginia Tech. (2:30pm): Atrium, Major William Hall, 220 Stanger St. Blacksburg, VA 24061.