



Categorical Exclusion Documentation Form (CE Form)

Project: Re-issuance of Right-of-Way Permit for Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC across Blue Ridge Parkway property, MP 135.9

PEPC Project Number: 95243

Description of Action (Project Description):

Project Description - Re-issuance of ROW permit for MVP

Project Overview: The proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC, (MVP) project is a natural gas pipeline that spans approximately 303 miles from northwestern West Virginia to southern Virginia - and as an interstate pipeline is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The project crosses the Blue Ridge Parkway, (BLRI), a unit of the National Park System, which has authority to permit pipeline crossings.

Background: In 2016 MVP requested a Right-Of-Way (ROW) permit and construction permit for installation of a 42-inch underground high pressure interstate natural gas pipeline to cross BLRI near Milepost (MP) 135.9 in the vicinity of US Highway 221 and Clover Hill/Calloway Road in Franklin and Roanoke Counties, Virginia. The method of construction proposed was open trench combined with conventional bore under the Parkway road surface. NEPA and NHPA compliance were completed on these permits, and they were signed by the NPS Southeast Regional Director on December 28, 2017 (PIN 67207) and construction of the pipeline across/under BLRI was completed in 2019.

Due to a court decision concerning another permitted pipeline crossing (Atlantic Coast Pipeline, ACP, PIN 53611), on February 25, 2019, the applicant requested a voluntary suspension of the ROW and construction permits issued under PIN 67207 for MVP. NPS / BLRI granted that request on February 27, 2019. The construction permit remains in limited effect for final stabilization and restoration work.

NPS met with MVP, at their request, on April 13, 2020, to discuss re-issuance of the ROW permit and associated environmental compliance.

Current Action: The pipeline route begins at BLRI MP 136 (just west of Adney Gap) and enters NPS land through a forest (windbreak) clearing, crossing an agricultural field until it intersects the BLRI motor-road. The route crosses underneath the BLRI motor-road within the open field and continues southeast toward BLRI's eastern boundary. Near the boundary it passes through approximately 580 feet of forested NPS land that is now cleared along the previously permitted 50-foot pipeline corridor as a result of construction and exits NPS property within the forested area along this segment. The completed pipeline is 2,237.16 feet long within BLRI's exterior boundary. The permitted corridor would be 25 feet on either side of the pipeline centerline.

Pipeline installation/construction was completed by the time the permits were suspended; the re-issuance of a construction permit is therefore not necessary.

Re-issuance of a ROW permit would be required to authorize the pipeline's continuing presence on NPS land and the future operation and maintenance of the line. The ROW permit would be issued for the standard ten (10) year term.

Operations and maintenance (O&M) activities by MVP under the ROW permit would include: remotely controlling the flow of natural gas through the pipeline, periodic inspections, corrosion protection, erosion control, maintenance of vegetation and signage on the ROW, and responding in the unlikely event of an emergency. Future access to the ROW for these activities would also be included.

If the Permittee determines that it needs to operate or maintain facilities or equipment using methods other than those that would be authorized in the ROW permit (activities requiring ground disturbance, pesticide use, or that otherwise go beyond the authorized scope of the permit) then the Permittee must apply in writing to the NPS for additional authorization. In considering such an application, the NPS would require additional environmental compliance and reappraisal in accordance with applicable law. After considering the Permittee's application, the NPS, in its sole discretion, may authorize the changes to operation and maintenance by amending the ROW permit or by issuing a new permit that includes such terms and conditions as the NPS deems appropriate. In its sole discretion the NPS may also deny the Permittee's request for changes to the authorization to operate and maintain the MVP.

Project Locations:

Location 1

County:	Roanoke	State:	VA
District:	Plateau	Section:	1-N
Geo.	135.9 (Milepost)	Other:	Sta. 794-796
Marker:			

Location 2

County:	Franklin	State:	VA
District:	Plateau	Section:	1-N
Geo.	135.9 (Milepost)	Other:	Sta. 794-796
Marker:			

CE Citation: A.5 Issuances, extensions, renewals, reissuances or minor modifications of concession contracts or permits not entailing new construction.

CE Justification: The installation and construction of the MVP, along with mitigation, is complete; a permit for ROW of pipeline and its operation and maintenance (O&M) will replace the original permit that was vacated in 2019. CE A.5 covers this action - the re-issuance of the ROW permit for pipeline O&M, requiring no new construction.

Decision: I find that the action fits within the categorical exclusion above. Therefore, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No extraordinary circumstances apply.

Signature

Superintendent: _____ **Date:** _____

Extraordinary Circumstances:

If implemented, would the proposal...	Yes/No	Notes
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?	No	Although a spill or leak from the pipeline or associated equipment is possible, the risk from ROW O&M is relatively low. O&M terms and conditions are designed to ensure that natural gas will be transported safely and to prevent any such impacts. The ROW permit will require that any preapproved ground disturbing activity be conditioned on the permittee using secondary containment to contain leaks, drips, and spills during any fueling of equipment or hydrostatic testing. Additionally, monitoring and reporting terms and conditions in the ROW should ensure the minimization of impacts from leaks or spills that are discovered early.
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas?	No	The IDT has completed the ESF and has identified no potential for significant impacts to BLRI resources resulting from the issuance of a ROW permit to include O&M for the MVP.
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?	No	There is no controversy over the environmental effects of the O&M activities that would be authorized in the ROW. The area where the pipeline exists is an agricultural permit which is partially kept mowed and hayed, and partially left in forest. The pipeline has already been built. O&M activities authorized in the ROW permit would be consistent with activity already occurring and do not involve a conflict concerning alternative uses of available NPS land resources.
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No	O&M of the pipeline involves monitoring and corrective action not involving ground disturbance (replacing markers, observing for signs of washout, runoff, soil erosion). O&M is designed to ensure safety of transport and we do not foresee any unique or unknown environmental risks from O&M activities. Should there be a need for more intensive work involving ground disturbance or other activity not described in the permit that could impact NPS resources, additional NEPA and NHPA

		compliance would be necessary, per the terms of the ROW.
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No	This action - issuance of ROW permit for pipeline O&M does not set a precedent for future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. The parkway has previously issued ROW permits for O&M, this action is not different than other actions previously permitted. This action is not a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. As discussed above, O&M of the pipeline will not cause significant environmental effects.
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?	No	This action - issuance of a ROW permit for pipeline O&M does not have a direct relationship with other actions that would create cumulatively significant environmental effects. The parkway has previously issued ROW permits for O&M - which when considered cumulatively do not create significant environmental effects. O&M activities involve vegetation maintenance, activities within the pipeline itself, and visual inspections - ground disturbance or more intensive maintenance activities are not allowed under this permit scenario and would be subject to additional NEPA and NHPA compliance. While other sections of the MVP (those not crossing NPS land) are not subject to the terms and conditions of the NPS permit, those sections of the MVP are still subject to Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulations.
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?	No	There are no significant impacts to properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register as documented in the Section 106 NHPA analysis for the suspended ROW permit, as well as the Section 106 NHPA analysis for this permit.
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?	No	Last fall (2019), the whorled sunflower, a federally listed species (endangered) only known to exist in 5 places worldwide was discovered along the parkway in Franklin County, VA, which is one of the counties that MVP passes through. It is a prairie remnant that lives in open grassy spaces and is known to grow in ROW corridors where it is known to exist (GA, AL). The chances of it being found in the MVP ROW permit corridor are very remote, but surveying is necessary to confirm.

		<p>FWS and the VA heritage program are aware of the new find. If the plant is present, maintenance of the MVP ROW permit corridor could negatively impact the plant. Under the terms of the draft MVP ROW permit, maintenance or non-emergency repair work within the ROW would require at least three weeks prior notice to the NPS, the use of pesticides, herbicides or growth regulating chemicals on Parkway lands requires additional written approval, and required signage provides onsite notice that no vegetation manipulation or herbicide use is authorized without specific written approval. The maintenance of open grassy conditions present in the ROW due to O&M could provide habitat for the plant. Visual surveys to confirm the presence or absence of the plant are necessary, and surveys must be conducted when the plant is in bloom - September or October. If the plant is detected, mitigations would be developed in consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service as needed. No O&M work would be allowed until the presence/absence of the plant is confirmed.</p>
I. Violate a federal, state, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No	<p>This action does not violate laws at the state, local, or tribal laws. O&M actions are carried out in accordance with state and federal laws.</p>
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EO 12898)?	No	<p>Issuance of a ROW permit for O&M is not anticipated to have any effect on low income or minority populations.</p>
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?	No	<p>There are no Indian sacred sites near the ROW.</p>
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?	No	<p>Mowing or other O&M activities may increase the prevalence of invasive species due to spread by workers, vehicles, and equipment, as well as disturbance. The draft ROW permit contains terms and conditions designed to reduce the chance for O&M activities to introduce invasive species, and the NPS would also monitor the ROW for invasive species establishment and apply appropriate treatment. Clearing or other ground disturbing activities would require additional approval and compliance.</p>

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

Updated Sept 2015 per NPS NEPA Handbook

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Re-issuance of Right-of-Way Permit for Mountain Valley Pipeline, LLC across Blue Ridge Parkway property, MP 135.9

PEPC Project Number: 95243

PMIS Number:

Project Type: Right-of-Way Permit (ROW)

Project Location:

County, State:	Roanoke, Virginia	District, Section:	Plateau, 1-N	Geographic Marker:	135.9
	(Milepost)	Other:	Sta. 794-796		
County, State:	Franklin, Virginia	District, Section:	Plateau, 1-N	Geographic Marker:	135.9
	(Milepost)	Other:	Sta. 794-796		

Project Leader: Heather McNichols

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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C. RESOURCE IMPACTS TO CONSIDER:

Resource	Potential for Impact	Potential Issues & Impacts
Air Air Quality	None	Issue: Impacts to air quality from ROW O&M Impact: No impact to air quality from ROW operations and maintenance is expected because ROW air emissions would be negligible. There are no pipeline-related activities that emit appreciable quantities of emissions within the vicinity of the park. Pipeline emission sources/activities that have associated air emissions include pipeline compressor stations and inspection operations that use Pipeline Inspection Gauges (PIGs). The nearest compressor station and collocated PIG launching/receiving facility is located approximately 60 km north of the park. None of these activities are associated with ROW operations inside the park.
Biological Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel	None	Issue: There is no habitat nor documented presence of Carolina Northern Flying Squirrel in the area of consideration.
Biological Indiana Bat	None	Issue: Impacts to Indiana Bat from ROW O&M Impact: Not impacted. ROW was cleared during initial installation and construction. O&M does not involve cutting mature trees.
Biological Northern Long-eared Bat	None	Issue: Impacts to Northern Long-eared Bat from ROW O&M Impact: Not impacted. ROW was cleared during initial installation and construction. O&M does not involve cutting mature trees. USFWS conducted bat surveys during original permitting and did not detect the presence of bat species of interest or concern.
Biological Species of Special Concern or Their Habitat <i>Whorled Sunflower</i>	Potential	Issue: Last fall (2019), the whorled sunflower, a federally listed species was documented along the parkway in Franklin, Co. Va. This is the first specimen found in this county, which is one of the counties that MVP passes through. It is a prairie remnant that lives in open grassy spaces and is known to grow in ROWs where it is known to exist (GA, AL). The chances of it being found in the ROW are very remote, but surveying is necessary to confirm. The whorled sunflower is federally

<p><i>(Helianthus verticillatus)</i></p>		<p>listed as endangered. US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and VA heritage program are aware of the new find.</p> <p>Impact: Personal communication regarding O&M on the pipelines took place between Lillian McElrath, BLRI, and Sumalee Hoskin, USFWS, on June 3, 2020. Ms. Hoskin informed BLRI that USFWS did not list the plant for the entire county; FWS has not declared BLRI or the county to have a viable population of the plant, though there is presence of the plant on the parkway 20 miles from the project area (pers. comm. Lillian McElrath). She told BLRI it need not include the Whorled Sunflower in the consultation for the MVP O&M. She recommended surveying in the fall and then initiating new consultation in the unlikely event that it is found within the ROW by the NPS.</p> <p>NPS mitigation: NPS staff will survey for the Whorled Sunflower (<i>Helianthus verticillatus</i>) in September-October. In the unlikely event that the plant is detected, the NPS would initiate consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and develop mitigation measures as needed. No O&M work would be allowed until the presence/absence of the plant is confirmed.</p>
<p>Biological Vegetation <i>Invasive Species</i></p>	<p>Potential</p>	<p>Issue: Spread of invasive species in cleared ROW corridor</p> <p>Impact: ROW corridor and clearing as part of O&M may increase the prevalence of invasive species due to the absence of other vegetation and the presence of humans, animals, or machinery spreading invasives. Mitigations include the prevention of invasive growth within corridor - this can be accomplished by preventing populations from establishing initially. Bare soil is the growing medium invasive plants prefer, so limiting the areas where soil is bare or exposed through O&M will help. In addition, visual monitoring of the ROW for invasive species is also important, as they grow rapidly. To control the spread if invasive species are found, the most appropriate treatment for the species should be followed - those range from mechanical removal of plants to chemical treatment.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Should plantings be necessary in the agricultural permit area, the following shall apply: Permittee shall take soil samples and have analysis done for the ROW and areas extending at least ten (10) feet outside the disturbed areas. A copy of the soil analysis shall be provided to the Park Superintendent. a) Fertilize and lime agricultural areas (including 10 foot buffer) according to the soil test recommendations prior to seeding. b) No-till, frost seeding is required on all disturbed lands, extending at least 10 feet beyond the outer edge of disturbance, within the agricultural permit portions of the Parkway crossing. The seed mixture shall consist of 33% each of Timothy grass, orchard grass, and red clover. Seeding shall take place from late January until March, utilizing these seeds in varieties that are adapted to Virginia, and using seeds with a high germination percentage. Permittee shall consult with the local Extension Agent for varieties adapted to mountains in Virginia and recommendations shall be approved in advance by NPS. c) Seeding equipment shall be adjusted to place seed at a shallow depth of ¼ to ½ inch to allow for blending with the existing agricultural permit area. Non-agricultural permit areas contained in the permitted area shall be over seeded with the seed mix as specified in the "Blue Ridge Parkway Guidelines for Seeding and Rehabilitation". The entire site shall be monitored for two years to ensure 90% recovery of the grass seed mix as approved by NPS. Should reseeding recovery not reach 90%, additional reseeding and monitoring by the Permittee will</p>

		<p>continue until NPS confirms 90% recovery has been reached. NPS will determine when the use of the area for the agricultural permit may resume.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Ensure only clean fill material is used as needed on the ROW to minimize the risk of introducing non-native, invasive species.</p>
Biological Vegetation <i>Mature pine forest on Parkway Left</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: A pine stand located on NPS property adjacent to the permitted ROW corridor may have sustained some root loss from construction and installation of gas pipeline within the ROW</p> <p>Impact: Any such root loss is a result of the prior construction activities and is not an impact of the ROW permit currently under consideration. Tree decline and death may occur over time from damaged root systems.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by NPS and Permittee: Allow dead trees adjacent to the ROW to remain standing as snags without intervention. If trees fall into the permitted ROW, allow permit holder to chip or saw trees into smaller pieces and scatter within or adjacent to the ROW.</p>
Cultural Archeological Resources <i>Archeological sites (not significant- not in ROW)</i>	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to archeological sites from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: There will be no impact to any archeological sites from ROW O&M. These sites were avoided in the initial planning and construction that was completed for the MVP in January 2019. The NPS signed the Programmatic Agreement (PA) related to the construction and initial ROW permit for the MVP on 11/29/17 and it was fully executed in December 2017. After additional discussion with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) in June 2020, NPS has notified the signatories in a letter dated 7/16/20 of its intent to comply with the 2017 PA for the re-issuance of a new ROW permit, consistent with section VIII(E).</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: No work shall occur within the previously permitted construction easement</p>
Cultural Cultural Landscapes <i>Blue Ridge Parkway Historic District, Bent Mountain Rural Historic District and Bent Mountain Apple Orchard Rural Historic District</i>	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to the Cultural Landscapes - intrusion into the landscape of signs, machinery, or other activity associated with O&M</p> <p>Impact: Ongoing impact from ROW remaining cleared which will be obvious visually. In addition, there may be minor temporary impacts that occur to the Cultural Landscape resulting from ROW O&M if machinery, vehicles, signage, or human activity is present as part of ROW O & M. As part of previous permitting for installation (PIN 67207), Park CRM determined on 4/10/17 that there would be no adverse effect to cultural landscapes, as part of the process leading to the 2017 PA, discussed above under archeological resources in this Environmental Screening Form.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Permittee shall implement the Historic Property Treatment Plan for the Bent Mountain Rural Historic District and abide by the terms of the Programmatic Agreement for the Mountain Valley Project - FERC CP16-10-000.</p>
Cultural Ethnographic Resources <i>Shaver, Schilling,</i>	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to Ethnographic Resources-intrusion into the landscape near the cemeteries related to activity associated with O&M</p>

<i>and Lancaster Cemeteries</i>		Impact: There will be no impacts to cemeteries resulting from ROW O&M. As part of previous permitting for installation (PIN 67207), Park CRM determined on 4/10/17 that there would be no adverse effect to ethnographic resource as part of the process leading to the 2017 PA, discussed above under archeological resources in this Environmental Screening Form.
Cultural Museum Collections	None	Issue: Impacts to Museum Collections Impact: There are no museum collections within the ROW, therefore no impacts will occur to museum collections.
Cultural Prehistoric/historic structures <i>Pre-Historic/Historic Structures - Barn, Retail Store Callaway Rd., and Earthen Dam (not in ROW)</i>	None	Issue: Impacts to Prehistoric/Historic Structures—intrusion into the Parkway with activity associated with O&M Impact: There will be no impact to pre-historic/historic structures from ROW O&M. As part of previous permitting for installation (PIN 67207), Park CRM determined on 4/10/17 that there would be no adverse effect to ethnographic resources as part of the process leading to the 2017 PA, discussed above under archeological resources in this Environmental Screening Form.
Geological Geologic Features <i>erosion of soil potentially impacting wetland</i>	Potential	Issue: Erosion on steep bank adjacent to ROW exacerbated by construction disturbance and major storm events Impact: Erosion issues last year were the result of several large storm events that created some flooding. In addition to the wetland area adjacent to parkway lands on Parkway Right (traveling in the direction from milepost 0 to 469), there is a culvert that comes from under the Parkway adjacent to the ROW. Erosion issues likely resulted from runoff coming out of the culvert and the fact that the grass seed in the MVP ROW had just been put down- water meeting bare soil resulted in creation of some gullies and a couple of areas just above the wetland that were washed out. As part of installation mitigation, MVP corrected all the gullies and the washout with NPS direction. As of 3/24/20 BLRI resource staff have not observed any additional issues. It is likely that now that the grass cover is well established, any further runoff issues will be minimal. There may be an increase in erosion and runoff if O&M results in bare soil conditions. NPS Mitigation: NPS staff will monitor ROW for erosion and runoff issues. If new drainage or erosion issues occur, remedial action on the parkway portion of the ROW would require prior notice to the NPS and additional approval.
Lightscapes Lightscapes	None	Issue: potential for light pollution O&M taking place at night Impact: There should be no impact to lightscapes. Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: O&M activities on BLRI lands would be limited to daylight hours unless additional prior approval is obtained.
Other Concessions Operations <i>Deed reserved private road</i>	Potential	Issue: Impacts to access via private road. Unauthorized use of a private road by permit holder to access the ROW corridor. Private road access as provided in deeds is intended for use only by the deed holder. A private road that begins on Callaway Road and crosses Parkway land on Parkway left, including the ROW corridor, cannot be used as routine access to the ROW, blocked for more than a few minutes,

		<p>or used for staging vehicles or materials without consent of the private road owner. The permit holder is liable for any damages to the roadbed or surface.</p> <p>Impact: ROW O&M may temporarily impact the ability to use this private road access.</p>
Other Human Health & Safety <i>Hazardous spills or leaks</i>	None	<p>Issue: Spills or leaks from pipeline or equipment</p> <p>Impact: O&M is designed to ensure the safe transport of natural gas. Refueling of equipment on Parkway lands will be prohibited. Per the ROW permit, the Parkway must be notified within two hours in the event of any spill or other environmental emergency.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: In addition to the notice requirement and prohibition on fueling above, MVP has provided and would follow its Emergency Response and Contingency Plans for fires and earthquakes.</p>
Other Human Health and Safety <i>Human Health and Safety</i>	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to human health and safety from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities consist of remotely controlling the flow of natural gas through the pipeline; periodic inspections, corrosion protection, erosion control, and maintenance of vegetation and signage on the permanent ROW. O&M is designed to make sure that the natural gas is transported safely and these activities are unlikely to impact human health and safety. In the unlikely event of an emergency, the ROW permit authorizes the applicant to provide immediate response to ensure impacts are minimized.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: The Park Superintendent shall be notified of the beginning and ending dates of maintenance and operations work, including notification of any unexpected problems. Additional approval is required in writing from the Park Superintendent for any proposed pesticide use, ground disturbance, non-emergency repair and any modifications to project implementation. Any decisions made in the field that result in greater impacts than anticipated by the proposed action must undergo additional environmental analysis.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Permittee would be required to provide temporary fencing of sufficient strength to prevent wildlife, livestock, and visitors from falling into all excavations left open for more than one day.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: The NPS must be notified within two hours in the event of any spill or other environmental emergency. Permittee would provide written reporting to the NPS in the event of OSHA-reportable injury, criminal incident, spill, or environmental emergency regarding actions and corrections taken within 48 hours and a complete report including resolution within ninety days of the incident.</p>
Other Park Operations	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to park operations from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities are limited to actions within the ROW and would not be anticipated to appreciably interfere with or add to responsibilities for park operations.</p>

		<p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Use of the Blue Ridge Parkway by contractors commuting to the jobsite and any other job-related traffic is prohibited and subject to citation.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: No work shall occur within the previously permitted construction easement.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: The Park Superintendent shall be notified of the beginning and ending dates of maintenance and operations work, including notification of any unexpected problems. Additional approval is required in writing from the Park Superintendent for any proposed pesticide use, ground disturbance, non-emergency repair and any modifications to project implementation. Any decisions made in the field that result in greater impacts than anticipated by the proposed action must undergo additional environmental analysis.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: All additional Terms & Conditions within the right-of-way permit shall be adhered to by permittee.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Permittee is prohibited from using unmanned aircraft (drones) except as permitted in rare instances by BLRI.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Permittee would be required to provide temporary fencing of sufficient strength to prevent wildlife, livestock, and visitors from falling into all excavations left open for more than one day.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Maintenance activities on BLRI lands would be limited to daylight hours unless additional prior approval is obtained.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: No vehicles, equipment, or materials would be parked or staged on BLRI lands without prior approval from BLRI.</p>
Socioeconomic Land Use	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to land use from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities are limited to actions within the ROW and are not anticipated to impact Parkway land use beyond the needs within the ROW.</p>
Socioeconomic Minority and low-income populations, size, migration patterns, etc.	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to minority and low-income populations from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities are limited to actions within the ROW and would not impact minority and low-income populations.</p>
Socioeconomic Socioeconomic	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to socioeconomics from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities will occur within the existing ROW, no foreseeable impacts are anticipated from ROW O&M activities.</p>
Soundscapes Soundscapes	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to soundscapes from ROW O&M</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities will occur within the existing ROW and are not anticipated to contribute negatively to the existing soundscape.</p>

<p>Viewsheds Viewsheds <i>viewsheds - fundamental Parkway resource</i></p>	<p>Potential</p>	<p>Issue: visibility of ROW corridor from other points along the Blue Ridge Parkway and intrusion into the landscape of signs, machinery, or other activity associated with O&M</p> <p>Impact: The corridor exists in an agricultural permit area - Parkway Right (traveling in the direction from milepost 0 to 469) is a homogenous view of a mowed grass field, Parkway Left (traveling in the direction from milepost 0 to 469) has steep slopes with pine forest; clearing of ROW was conducted as part of installation. As of 3/23/20 the pipeline corridor is visible on Parkway Left -there is some feathering of vegetation to reduce the appearance of a straight corridor, and there is limited grass revegetation. On Parkway Right the field exists as it previously did. Markers or signage to delineate the ROW would also be installed. Aircraft, vehicles, and equipment would potentially be visible during inspection and maintenance events.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Should plantings be necessary in the agricultural permit area, the following shall apply: Permittee shall take soil samples and have analysis done for the ROW and areas extending at least ten (10) feet outside the disturbed areas. A copy of the soil analysis shall be provided to the Park Superintendent. a) Fertilize and lime agricultural areas (including 10 foot buffer) according to the soil test recommendations prior to seeding. b) No-till, frost seeding is required on all disturbed lands, extending at least 10 feet beyond the outer edge of disturbance, within the agricultural permit portions of the Parkway crossing. The seed mixture shall consist of 33% each of Timothy grass, orchard grass, and red clover. Seeding shall take place from late January until March, utilizing these seeds in varieties that are adapted to Virginia, and using the seeds with a high germination percentage. Permittee shall consult with the local Extension Agent for varieties adapted to mountains in Virginia and recommendations shall be approved in advance by NPS. c) Seeding equipment shall be adjusted to place seed at a shallow depth of ¼ to ½ inch to allow for blending with the existing agricultural permit area. Non-agricultural permit areas contained in the permitted area shall be over seeded with the seed mix as specified in the "Blue Ridge Parkway Guidelines for Seeding and Rehabilitation". The entire site shall be monitored for two years to ensure 90% recovery of the grass seed mix as approved by NPS. Should reseeding recovery not reach 90%, additional reseeding and monitoring by the Permittee will continue until NPS confirms 90% recovery has been reached. NPS will determine when the use of the area for the agricultural permit may resume.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Use of the Blue Ridge Parkway by contractors commuting to the jobsite and any other job-related traffic is prohibited and subject to citation.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: At the direction of the Parkway Resident Landscape Architect, above ground carsonite posts shall be maintained on both the east and west boundary crossing of the Parkway and must be located so as not to be visible from the Parkway motor road. Posts shall be provided by the NPS. Any other posts or markers required by the U.S Department of Transportation (DOT) or the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) shall be placed only after their location and appearance is approved by the Park Superintendent.</p>
<p>Visitor Use and Experience</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Issue: Impacts to recreation resources from ROW O&M</p>

Recreation Resources		Impact: O&M activity will occur within the existing ROW and is not anticipated to interfere with Parkway recreation resources, therefore there are no foreseeable impacts anticipated from ROW O&M.
Visitor Use and Experience Visitor Use and Experience <i>leisurely driving experience - fundamental Parkway resource</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: View of ROW corridor impacts visitors as they travel through the rural, pastoral landscape as part of the Parkway's leisurely scenic driving experience.</p> <p>Impact: The corridor exists in an agricultural permit area - Parkway Right is a homogenous view of a mowed grass field, Parkway Left has steep slopes with pine forest; clearing of ROW was conducted as part of installation. As of March 23, 2020 the pipeline corridor is visible on Parkway Left (traveling in the direction from milepost 0 to 469) - there is some feathering of vegetation to reduce the appearance of a straight corridor, there is limited grass revegetation. On Parkway Right the field exists as it previously did. Markers or signage to delineate the ROW could also be visible. Aircraft, vehicles, and equipment would potentially be visible during inspection and maintenance events. Maintenance and repairs on the parkway portion of the ROW would require prior notice to the NPS and would require additional approval.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: The Park Superintendent shall be notified of the beginning and ending dates of maintenance and operations work, including notification of any unexpected problems. Additional approval is required in writing from the Park Superintendent for any proposed pesticide use, ground disturbance, non-emergency repair and any modifications to project implementation. Any decisions made in the field that result in greater impacts than anticipated by the proposed action must undergo additional environmental analysis.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: Use of the Blue Ridge Parkway by contractors commuting to the jobsite and any other job-related traffic is prohibited and subject to citation.</p> <p>Mitigation to be completed by Permittee: At the direction of the Parkway Resident Landscape Architect, above ground carsonite posts shall be maintained on both the east and west boundary crossing of the Parkway and must be located so as not to be visible from the Parkway motor road. Posts shall be provided by the NPS. Any other posts or markers required by the U.S Department of Transportation (DOT) or the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) shall be placed only after their location and appearance is approved by the Park Superintendent.</p>
Water Floodplains	None	<p>Issue: Impacts to Floodplains</p> <p>Impact: O&M activities will occur within the ROW corridor. Impacts to floodplains are not anticipated to occur as a result of O&M activities.</p>
Water Marine or Estuarine Resources	None	Issue: There are no known marine or estuarine resources within the proposed ROW.
Water Water Quality or Quantity	None	Issue: Impacts to water quality / quantity from ROW O&M

<i>existing streams within ROW</i>		<p>Impact: O&M activities will occur within the permitted ROW. There are no existing streams within the ROW; therefore, there are no foreseeable impacts to existing streams from ROW O&M.</p> <p>NPS Mitigation: The NPS will note in its ROW database that a wetland occurs downslope. All requests submitted for ground disturbing activities will be reviewed with concern for the wetland, and erosion and sediment controls as needed to avoid or minimize impacts to the wetland will be required prior to ground disturbance approval.</p>
Water Wetlands <i>Wetland within ROW on Parkway Right</i>	Potential	<p>Issue: A 0.01-acre wetland off parkway lands is immediately adjacent to and downslope from the permitted ROW corridor on the parkway. Ground disturbing activities that occur in the vicinity of the wetland could impact it.</p> <p>Impact: Ground disturbing activities by the permit holder, if not properly managed to minimize soil movement, could increase sedimentation into the adjacent wetland.</p> <p>NPS Mitigation: The NPS will note in its ROW database that a wetland occurs downslope. All requests submitted for ground disturbing activities will be reviewed with concern for the wetland, and erosion and sediment controls as needed to avoid or minimize impacts to the wetland will be required prior to ground disturbance approval.</p>