

# Stand Up and Protect the People's Property, Oppose Sabal Trail's Government-Backed Land Grab

## Vote "NO" on SR 954

- Sabal Trail (Spectra Energy) will take people's private property under threat of eminent domain for private profit; the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has issued a permit that would **allow this Houston-based private corporation to use federal eminent domain to take property.**
- The FERC permit process is under appeal by private property owners and advocacy groups. The pipeline still does not have several major state and federal permits to allow construction in wetlands and impacts to air and water quality. The State of Georgia controls TWO of these permits through the Georgia Environmental Protection Division permitting process.
- Before Sabal Trail even has all of the permits it needs, the Deal Administration seeks to grant easements for the construction of the pipeline under several major Georgia rivers, including the Chattahoochee, Hannahatchee Creek, the Flint, the Ochlockonee, Okapilco Creek, and the Withlacoochee. Local legislators kept these easements out of the original Senate Resolution; pressure from the Governor's office had them inserted in the House Committee.
- Those pushing the States' premature approval of the easements claim we 'must' do this because 'they already have their permits' and 'we would have to defend a large lawsuit'. Some of that may be true, but, Sabal does NOT have all of their permits, and, more to the point, **why would the state of Georgia not wish to defend a lawsuit that protects our private and public property?**
- Sabal Trail will destroy invaluable agricultural areas, hunting lands, fish habitat, wildlife, wetlands, and working forests. **The pipeline will not benefit Georgia citizens** – all of the methane frack-gas will be used in Florida or exported for profit - the recent 'announcement' of 'taps for GA' is just that: recent, made in the heat of the fight. The investors in the project include Governor Rick Scott (Florida).
- **The pipeline is not needed** – energy demand is decreasing and energy efficiency and renewable energy can meet any additional demand.
- **Methane frack-gas pipelines are not safe** – explosions and fires repeatedly have caused extensive property damage, personal injury, and death including millions of dollars of damage by Spectra Energy, one of Sabal Trail's owners, such as the explosion pictured here under the Arkansas River in downtown Little Rock in May of 2015.
- Sabal Trail's preferred route unjustifiably runs through the most populated area of southwest Georgia and the poorest region in the state. The pipeline does not have to run through Georgia at all, or anywhere, for that matter.
- Sabal Trail's preferred route runs through miles of unstable karst terrain and sinkhole-prone areas resulting in a high danger of pipeline collapse, explosion, fire, and drinking water contamination



- Sabal Trail's preferred Albany compressor station site is unjustly located in a populated African-American residential neighborhood and will pollute Dougherty County's air.
- Profit for Spectra Energy of Houston, Texas is no reason to drill through under Okapilco Creek, the Withlacoochee River, and the Suwannee River, or through the closed Lowndes County landfill, much less to take easements from local landowners through eminent domain.
- Stop it in Georgia, and that stops it in Florida and Alabama, too!

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