Short-term jobs are not worth long-term Sabal Trail risk

We’re all familiar with need for work and unemployment, but a job for a few weeks isn’t worth risking drinking water for all our families and children and grandchildren.

The Sabal Trail Pipeline project is NOT a done deal. More citizens and groups join the opposition all the time because of risks to our Floridan Aquifer and eminent domain taking easements from your neighbors to profit a company from somewhere else.

We ask you:

1. Look for yourselves. Read up, or go see Lime Run Spring or the other springs, sinkholes, and caverns Sabal Trail says aren’t as close as they are to its proposed pipeline path.
2. **Do not sign a contract with Sabal Trail before independent investigation of its route.**
3. If you see any safety or environmental incidents, please let us know; see contacts on next page.

Is this the kind of company you want to work for?

1. Pipeline drilling and installation, especially under rivers and streams, risks contaminating our drinking water, the Floridan Aquifer, which is contained in karst, porous limestone, like Swiss cheese. Springs and sinkholes are interconnected by underground caverns which may be damaged during drilling. This could leak river water, drilling fluids, or more toxic contaminants into our aquifer and our wells.
2. Sabal Trail wants to gouge through the most vulnerable aquifer recharge area,¹ the worst possible place for this massive 36-inch diameter pipeline on a hundred-foot right of way.
3. **Independent geologists²** have proven³ that there are numerous sinkholes and water systems along the proposed route that are **not** in the documents Sabal Trail sent to regulators.
4. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) faces six separate legal challenges⁴ to its initial approval, and even FERC has not given a construction go-ahead for Sabal Trail.
5. The Georgia legislature on March 22nd **denied river-drilling easements to Sabal Trail in a historic vote of 34 ayes to 128 nays.** Can Sabal Trail even get to Florida?
6. Multiple groups just asked the Land and Water Conservation Fund to review Sabal Trail’s likely effects on parks and other public lands.⁵

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¹ "Florida portion of the Southeast Markets Pipeline Project superimposed on Floridan Aquifer Vulnerability Assessment Map", FDEP to FERC, 27 March 2014, [http://spectrabusters.org/?p=3514](http://spectrabusters.org/?p=3514)
⁵ “Conservation groups call for public parks to be put ahead of corporate polluters’ pipeline plans”, Jonathon Berman, Sierra Club Georgia Chapter, 12 April 2016, [http://www.wwals.net/?p=19619](http://www.wwals.net/?p=19619)
7. The Florida Water Management Districts and the US Army Corps of Engineers have yet to approve the project. Both Hamilton and Suwannee Counties, Gulf Restoration Network, and WWALS Watershed Coalition have requested additional study from the Army Corps that could stop the Corps from issuing a permit.

8. Suwannee County passed a resolution asking Sabal Trail to move its proposed Hildreth Compressor Station. Cancer, nosebleeds, and cardiovascular problems have been linked to “fugitive methane” close to compressor stations.

9. Many pipelines are being delayed or cancelled; fossil fuels are a dying 20th century industry. Already there are more jobs in solar power than in all of oil and gas extraction. Solar needs no eminent domain, no drilling, no water, and produces no exhaust.

10. Sabal Trail is suing local landowners for eminent domain to force them to give up pipeline easements. Why should your neighbors have to cut down trees and put up with pipeline encroachment forever in exchange for a paltry one-time payment?

11. Spectra Energy, the pipeline company that wants to build the Sabal Trail pipeline, has a thirty-year rap sheet of safety and environmental incidents, including a pipeline blowing up under the Arkansas River in Little Rock last May.

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7 “[A] formal request that the Army Corps of Engineers makes a site visit inspection...” Suwannee BOCC, 7 April 2016, http://www.wwals.net/?p=19518


12 “There Are Now More Solar Jobs In America than Oil Extraction Jobs”, by Shane Ferro, Huffington Post, 14 January 2016, http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/solar-jobs-rising_us_569409e5e4b0cad15e65be87


14 Spectra Safety Violations, SpectraBusters, from PHMSA, NTSB, FERC, NEB, etc., http://goo.gl/8rv7Sn