

Quick Tips on Writing Letters to the Editor

Keep it short and on one subject (between 150-300 words)

Keeping your letter brief will help assure that your important points are not cut out by the newspaper

Make sure to include your contact information

Many newspapers will only print a letter to the editor after calling the author to verify his or her identity and address

Newspapers will not give out that information, and will usually only print your name and city should your letter be published

Make references to the newspaper

While some papers print general commentary, many will only print letters that refer to a specific article – refer to example below:

Example Letter to the Editor

“Keystone pipeline an outdated solution”

RE 'KEYSTONE XL show goes on and on' (editorial, Nov. 24): I take issue with The Pilot editorial board's stance on the Keystone XL pipeline. As with all these types of projects, a cost-benefit analysis is needed. In the case of this project, the potential costs vastly outweigh the benefits.

As the editorial states, in the short term, the pipeline will create construction jobs. However, the total job count after construction is just 35 people. The editorial mentions other detractions, such as the toxic nature of the so-called oil, which is more like a very viscous, oily sludge that needs additional solvents to make it flow. The pipeline must be heated, or the sludge will get stuck.

The editorial also mentions the huge amount of energy the extraction of the stuff requires. How does spending that much energy to gain a little headroom in a filthy paradigm make sense? Why are we continuing to pump funds into this backward idea, anyway? The only reason is to enrich the oil concerns, which are already flush. Our continued reliance on these pollutants is no excuse.

The issue really comes down to employment in Canada and at the refineries on the gulf. The 'oil' itself would be for the global market, which is already glutted, and would have no effect on the United States. And let's remember that the alternative to the Keystone pipeline would be one that would go through Canada, to Vancouver, but the opposition to it among Canadians is so high that Canadians won't build it.

It is past time for the Keystone XL pipeline to move to the 'we dodged that bullet' file.

Nancy Pope
Norfolk

Northampton County Local Newspapers

The Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald

Serving Roanoke Valley and Lake Gaston communities, published daily

Send Letter to:

Online form: <https://rrdailyherald.com/live-content/form-letter-to-the-editor/>

- or -

Tia Bedwell, Editor tiabedwell@rrdailyherald.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252) 410-7056

Lake Gaston Gazette-Observer

Serving Lake Gaston communities, published every Wednesday

Send Letter to:

Online form: https://www.lakegastongazette-observer.com/site/forms/online_services/letter/lake_gaston_gazetteobserver_letter_editor/

- or -

Newspaper's general email news@lakegastongazette-observer.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the front desk at (252)-586-2700

Roanoke-Chowan News-Herald

Serving Bertie, Gates, Hertford, and Northampton counties, published Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday

Send Letter to:

Online form: <https://www.roanoke-chowannewsherald.com/services/letters-to-editor/>

- or -

Cal Bryant, Editor cal.bryant@r-cnews.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252)-332-7207

ACP in Northampton County

- *A compressor station, used to pump highly pressurized gas down the pipeline, is being built in Pleasant Hill.*
- *The facility will routinely release toxic air pollutants into the air, putting the health of people living in Pleasant Hill and surrounding areas at risk.*
- *According to a report by the Southwest PA Environmental Health Project, every compressor station they studied routinely released large volumes of chemicals associated with a variety of diseases and disorders. Nearby residents experience higher respiratory, cardiovascular and neurological problems, and they report elevated stress levels due to 24/7 noise.*

For more information on how the dangerous (nearly 1,000 foot "blast zone"), fracked gas Atlantic Coast Pipeline will impact your community and trap all North Carolinians in 20+ years of fossil fuel dependence, visit:

<https://frackfreenc.org/>

Halifax County Local Newspapers

The Roanoke Rapids Daily Herald

Serving Roanoke Valley and Lake Gaston communities, published daily

Send Letter to:

Online form: <https://rrdailyherald.com/live-content/form-letter-to-the-editor/>

- or -

Tia Bedwell, Editor tiabedwell@rrdailyherald.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252) 410-7056

ACP in Northampton and Halifax County

- *The ACP is planning to cut under the Roanoke River at the Northampton/Halifax county line*
- *Known as “horizontal directional drilling”, this activity will devastate the river and surrounding ecosystems.*
- *Accounts from residents and landowners along the Tar River, where the ACP is currently drilling underneath, reveal that incredibly noisy construction occurs almost 24/7*

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Nash County Local Newspapers

The Nashville Graphic

Serving Nashville, Spring Hope, Red Oak, Castalia, Momeyer, published Thursdays

Send Letter to:

Jo Anne Cooper, Publisher jcooper@nashvillegraphic.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252)-459-7101

The Rocky Mount Telegram

Serving Rocky Mount, published daily

Send Letter to:

Gene Metrick, Editor gmetrick@rmtelegram.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252) 366-8141

The Spring Hope Enterprise

Serving southern Nash County, published Wednesdays

Send Letter to:

Corey Friedman, Editor cfriedman@wilsontimes.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (252)-265-7813

ACP in Nash County

- *The ACP is currently drilling under the Tar River in a process known as “horizontal directional drilling”*
- *This technique poses serious risks, as highly pressurized drilling fluid is shot underneath the riverbed to lubricate the drill*
- *Should the integrity of the drilled hole underneath the Tar fail, toxic chemicals that make up the drilling fluid will be uncontrollably released into the river*

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Wilson County Local Newspapers

The Wilson Times

Serving Baily, Black Creek, Elm City, Fremont, Harrisburg, Kenly, Lucama, Macclesfield, Micro, Middlesex, Nashville, Pikeville, Pine Tops, Rock Ridge, Wilson, Rockville, Rocky Mount, Saratoga, Sharpsburg, Sims, Snow Hill, Stantonsburg, Walstonburg, published Monday, published Saturdays

Send Letter to:

Email editorial desk: letters@wilsontimes.com

Drew Wilson, staff writer, dwilson@wilsontimes.com (252) 265-7818 – has given good coverage to on the ground ACP resistance in NC

**Editor's Note: Please limit your correspondence to no more than 400 words, and be sure it's related to recent news stories or editorials published in The Wilson Times. Your letters must be original, must be signed, and must include the writer's address and telephone number for the purpose of verification.*

ACP in Wilson County

- *The ACP will cut through 12 miles of the Neuse-Pamlico watershed in Wilson County, with plans to drill underneath the Contentnea River to continue SW to Johnston County*
- *Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) poses serious threats to the River, as unpredictable and unstoppable releases of toxic drilling fluids into the waterbody could occur (threat outlined in ACP's own HDD engineering report)*

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Johnston County Local Newspapers

The Daily Record

Serving Sampson, Johnston, and Harnett counties, published Monday through Friday

Send Letter to:

Online form: <http://mydailyrecord.com/forms/letters/>

- or -

Lisa Farmer, Editor lfarmer@mydailyrecord.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (910)-891-1234

**Editor's Note: Be concise, preferably under 250 words. We reserve the right to edit all letters for style, brevity, space and clarity. No anonymous letters or thank you letters will be printed.*

The Raleigh News & Observer

Regional newspaper serving Wake and surrounding counties, including Johnston County, published daily

Send Letter to:

Online form: <https://www.newsobserver.com/opinion/letters-to-the-editor/submit-letter/>

- or -

You can email your submission to forum@newsobserver.com

Have a question about your letter? Contact the opinions desk (919) 829-4825

**Editor's Note: Letters and Point of View columns must include your name, address and daytime phone number and must be signed (if sent by mail).*

ACP in Johnston County

- *The ACP will cut through 38 miles of the Neuse-Pamlico watershed in Johnston County, with plans to drill underneath Little River*
- *Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) poses serious threats to the River, as unpredictable and unstoppable releases of toxic drilling fluids into the waterbody could occur(threat outlined in ACP's own HDD engineering report)*
- *ACP has already begun constructing a metering and regulation tower in Smithfield, which the company has acknowledged will emit harmful pollutants into the air, including volatile organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter.*

For more information on how the dangerous (nearly 1,000 foot "blast zone"), fracked gas Atlantic Coast Pipeline will impact your community and trap all North Carolinians in 20+ years of fossil fuel dependence, visit: <https://frackfreenc.org/>

Sampson County Local Newspapers

The Sampson Independent

Serving all of Sampson County

Send Letter to:

Online Form: <https://www.clintonnc.com/formeditor>

Have a question about your letter? Contact the editor at (910)-592-8137

**Editor's Note: Letters should be between 150 to 275 words, should refer to an article that has appeared in print or online, and must include the writer's address and phone numbers. Letters may be edited and shortened for space.*

The Daily Record

Regional paper based in Harnett County, serves surrounding Sampson and Johnston counties, published Monday through Friday

Send Letter to:

Online form: <http://mydailyrecord.com/forms/letters/>

- or -

Lisa Farmer, Editor lfarmer@mydailyrecord.com

Have a question about your letter? Call the editor at (910)-891-1234

**Editor's Note: Be concise, preferably under 250 words. We reserve the right to edit all letters for style, brevity, space and clarity. No anonymous letters or thank you letters will be printed.*

ACP in Sampson County

- *The ACP will cut through 8 miles of the Neuse-Pamlico and Cape Fear watersheds in Sampson County, with plans to drill underneath Cape Fear River in Cumberland county*

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Cumberland County Local Newspapers

The Fayetteville Observer

Serving Fayetteville and surrounding areas, published daily

Send Letter to:

Online form: <https://www.fayobserver.com/news/20181004/submit-letters-to-editor>

- or - email elletters@fayobserver.com

- or - send to Matt Leclercq, Editor mleclercq@fayobserver.com

Have a question about your letter? Contact the editorial desk at (910) 486-3500

ACP in Cumberland County

- *The ACP will cut through 40 miles of the Cape Fear watershed in Cumberland County, with plans to drill underneath Cape Fear River – putting an important source of drinking water for thousands of North Carolinians at risk*
- *Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) poses serious threats to the River, as unpredictable and unstoppable releases of toxic drilling fluids into the waterbody could occur (threat outlined in ACP's own HDD engineering report)*

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Robeson County Local Newspapers

The Robesonian

Serving all of Robeson County, published Monday - Saturday

Send Letter to:

Donnie Douglas, Editor ddouglas@robsonian.com

Have a question about your letter? Contact the editor at (910) 416-5649

ACP in Robeson County

- *The ACP will cut through 22 miles of the county, impacting 5 acres of wetlands and the watershed of the Lumber River – a waterway of deep significance to the Lumbee People*
- *The pipeline also plans to drill underneath the Pee Dee River in a process known as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD)*
- *Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) poses serious threats to the River, as unpredictable and unstoppable releases of toxic drilling fluids into the waterbody could occur(threat outlined in ACP's own HDD engineering report)*
- *ACP is planning to build a 350 ft. tall communication tower at an existing Pembroke metering and regulation station – this tower will be lit 24/7 and will blink throughout the night*
 - o *For Native Lumbee People, the open sky – both day and night – is a natural and cultural resource*

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