

**Take Home Message**  
**Elected Officials Hike, May 15, 2016**  
*Sabal Trail Pipeline crossing at the Suwannee River  
and Falmouth Cathedral Cave System*

<b>What Sabal Trail has Said</b>	<b>What is Actually True</b>
The closest karst feature to the proposed pipeline route is 750 feet from the center-line where the horizontal directional drilling (HDD) under the Suwannee River will occur between mile marker 266.8 and 267.3. (Suwannee River State Park)	The closest karst feature to the proposed pipeline route between mile marker 266.8 and 267.3 is directly on the center line, with several active sinkholes 50-75 feet away from the center line. <b>Southeastern Geology's report says "sinkhole features too numerous to locate but very evident on the Lidar Map (every blue feature)."</b>
Sabal Trail has repeatedly stated that they used LiDAR (technology for surveying distance) imaging to evaluate the proposed route. Sabal Trail has also stated that field surveys provide more detailed site specific data.	If Sabal Trail used LiDAR or field surveys at the Suwannee River Crossing site, why did they not find the numerous sinkhole features that Southeastern Geology's report finds. Also, why can't STT produce the LiDAR data even when a U.S. Congressman's office asks for it?
The closest first magnitude spring to the pipeline route is Madison Blue Spring at 1.7 miles.	The closest first magnitude spring to the pipeline route is Lime Run Spring at the Suwannee River State Park, less than a mile away. Lime Run Spring is the outlet for the spring conduit called the Falmouth Cathedral Cave System.
Falmouth Cathedral Cave system is approximately 100 feet below the ground surface where the pipeline will cross under highway 90 and the CSX railroad.	According to Southwestern Geology's report, the Falmouth Cathedral Cave System lies approx. 30' below land surface. This puts this cave/spring conduit at great risk of collapse at the area where the pipeline will be drilled under Highway 90 and the CSX Railroad.
The rivers are the base of the groundwater flow system and are the discharge areas. There is little or no flow beneath the river. Potential impacts would be confined to the vicinity of the HDD crossing.	Dye tests have shown interconnectivity between different springs, indicating flow under the rivers. For example, Suwanacoochee, Ellaville, Lime Run, and Lime Springs have all been shown to be connected to the Falmouth Cathedral Cave System miles away. Suwannee River Water Management District maps show several spring conduits that pass under the Suwannee and Withlacoochee Rivers, showing that water does indeed flow under the rivers. Deep wells in the region, some miles from the river, turn tannic in color as the river water rises. It only takes a few days for the tannic water to make its way through the porous rock and caverns to these wells. <b>Any impacts from this pipeline will be felt for miles.</b>

## **We are asking our elected officials to:**

- Ask the Army Corps of Engineers to come see the sinkholes and springs for themselves.
- Ask the Army Corps of Engineers for a Supplemental Environmental Impact Study.
- Publicly object to the Army Corps of Engineers issuing their permit(s) in the current proposed pipeline route.
- Support a General Accounting Office (GAO) investigation of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for all pipeline projects.

<http://cqrcengage.com/delawariverkeeper/app/write-a-letter?0&engagementId=191844>

## **Addresses for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:**

To: Florida:	Georgia:	Alabama:
U.S.A.C.E.	Commander, U.S.A.C.E.	U.S.A.C.E.
Jacksonville District Reg. Div.	Savannah District	Mobile District Reg. Div.
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Attn: Mr. Mark R. Evans	1104 N. Westover	Attn: Mr. James S. Cherry II
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Re: Application Numbers: SAS-2013-00942 (GA), SAJ-2013-03030 (FL), SAM-2014-00655-JSC (AL)

Applicants: Sabal Trail Transmission, LLC, Attn Mr. George McLachlan;

Florida Southeast Connection, LLC, Attn: Mr. Randall LaBauve;

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC, Attn: Ms. Karen Olson

## **Participating organizations include:**



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for the upper Suwannee River  
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*Thanks to the Hamilton County, FL School Board for a bus, paid for by WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc.*