

Christine Camper
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February 21, 2023

RE: Mountain Valley Pipeline and Equitrans Expansion Project Supplemental EIS #50036

Dear Dr. Wilkes,

The GFWC Star Woman's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). The GFWC has resolutions to urge the Forest Service to protect the National Forest and select Alternative 1, the No Action alternative. The Mountain Valley Pipeline is inconsistent with the Forest Plan, and we urge you to reject MVP's eleven proposed amendments and exceptions. The bold type is to emphasize the clauses in the resolutions that apply to the Mountain Valley project:

"011-040 Endangered Species (Convention 1987; Amended 1991; Amended 1995; Amended 1999; Reviewed 2003; Reviewed 2007; Reviewed 2011; Amended 2015)
WHEREAS, Many species of wildlife and plants have become extinct; and WHEREAS, Many more species have been so depleted in numbers or available habitat that they are now in danger of becoming extinct; and WHEREAS, These species are of aesthetic, ecological, educational, historic, recreational and scientific value; and WHEREAS, Natural ecosystems and their diversity of wild animals and plants are disappearing at a rapid rate, particularly in the world's rain forests which harbor the greatest diversity of natural life; and WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States has recognized the importance of conservation of such species by enacting the Endangered Species Act, and by encouraging each state to adopt parallel legislation to give protection to species within its own boundaries; therefore RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges, without compromise, the reauthorization and implementation of the Endangered Species Act with the appropriation of sufficient funding and the flexibility to recognize personal property rights; and further RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to advocate for the adoption of appropriate state legislation, following the model of the Federal Endangered Species Act, and development of appropriate state funding sources to ensure establishment or enhancement of an effective state conservation effort.

011-060 Forest Resources (Convention 1984; Amended and Reaffirmed 1988; Amended 1992; Amended 1996; Amended 2000; Amended 2004; Amended 2008; Amended 2012; Reviewed 2016) **WHEREAS, The United States ratified the**

*United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, committing the country to working cooperatively within the international community to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels; and WHEREAS, Concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO2), the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, can be limited by increasing the amount of annual uptake by natural systems such as forest reservoirs; and **WHEREAS, Forests provide protective habitat for a variety of plant and animal life; and WHEREAS, Forests are managed for a multitude of uses and values; therefore RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs supports policies which meet international obligations and adequately protect forest resources through such means as: Improved land use management of public and private forests and adjacent areas; Adequately funded research programs in all phases of forest management, sustainability, and recycling technologies; Waste, fire, insect, and disease control; Provisions for forest land management assistance to private landowners; Promoting public awareness programs; and further RESOLVED, That the General Federation of Women's Clubs urges its member clubs to contact legislators to enact and enforce legislation to secure the above stated goals.***

Our GFWC Star Womans Club member, Freeda L. Cathcart, has been documenting the Mountain Valley Pipeline continuing to pollute the waterways which are the habitat for the endangered Roanoke logperch. For over a year Mountain Valley Pipeline was only allowed to work on stabilization or erosion and sediment controls, yet they have failed so far to prevent their project from polluting the waterways of the endangered Roanoke logperch. Please refer to Freeda L. Cathcart's affidavit filed in 2020 and has been resubmitted in response to MVP's request.

Based on the resolutions stated above and Freeda L. Cathcart's affidavit, the GFWC Star Woman's Club opposes Mountain Valley Pipeline's attempt to exempt their project from environmental protections in order to go through the Jefferson National Forest. Allowing the MVP to proceed through old growth forests could harm vulnerable interior forest species by creating edge habitats. This could adversely affect the endangered Candy darter, the endangered Indiana bat and the endangered Roanoke logperch.

Sincerely,

Christine Camper

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