Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/29/2023 5:00:00 AM First name: Gwyneth Last name: Homer Organization:

Title:

Comments: The purpose of the United States Forest Service, is to protect the forests, as well as the plants, animals, fungi, soil, water, and air therein. The Jefferson National Forest, in particular, was established with the express purpose of restoring and protecting clean water resources. Despite computer models indicating otherwise, the construction alone of the Mountain Valley Pipeline has wrought destructive havoc on our mountain slopes and contaminated water over 500 times; this contamination would only increase if the project is finished and Liquefied Natural Gas fracked and transported. The damage to our land and water inevitably leads to destruction of fragile ecosystems. In addition, this will have long-lasting impacts on the climate, from the energy used to frack and condense the gas, to the methane flares, to the burning of the gas, not to mention the social and economic precedent of continuing to rely on fossil fuels. Approving the Mountain Valley Pipeline stands contrary to the purpose of the US Forest Service.