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Title:

Comments: Dear Mr. Wilkes and Others Whom It May Concern: Please let this email serve as my comment in opposition to the granting or approval of the final EIS presented to the US Forest Service for the completion of the Mountain Valley Pipeline. By now you and everyone tasked with making the final decision have received opposition comments and links to credible and verifiable data, first person accounts, images, video, and scientific studies. What should be the most compelling reasons for the rejection of this permit is seeing and hearing what has and will continue to happen based on all the evidence compiled to date. When considered in totality it's clear there is an unbreakable pattern from start to finish. A solid line of time dotted with 500-plus violations, a few million in fines, but not one sign of complete compliance moving forward clearly shows an unbreakable pattern of violating the regulations either intentionally, by design or just plain negligent by default. Entities whose yearly profits afford them with virtually endless budgets to pay attorneys are pitted against people who just want to live in peace on their land, protect it, nurture and thrive on what the land provides them. Corporations will far more money than they would by fixing the problems and providing restitution to the people whose lives have been upended in the pursuit of simply defending what is theirs. They fought and are fighting for their land, their homes, and is not only their well-earned sanctuary it provides them a way to support themselves and the people in their communities. They also know these lands because they spend time there, live there, grew up there, etc., and they know what has and will happen based on a mountain of indisputable evidence. Document after document indicates there are engineering and design flaws, misrepresentation and total disregard for the hard facts that indicate a very high likelihood of catastrophic damage. And we can also safely assume a high risk for loss of life in the event of structural failure of a 42" pipeline transporting highly pressurized methane gas. I know you've received many comments with details and references and I don't need to repeat it all. My request is that the people who are tasked with the final decision for granting or rejecting this permit application would consider the latter option based on the evidence presented in the second paragraph above. The only conclusion based on the evidence presented that management can't be trusted to adhere to the boundaries and requirements of this or agreements on this project to date? And the evidence also documents multiple points of a higher than acceptable risk of failure, to include risk of possible catastrophic failure at any point in any of the drilling methods proposed for crossing 90 feet under the Appalachian Trail. You are also aware that the specifications and procedures document outlining the order of succession involving the four different methods of drilling proposed is incomplete. There's no plan or even a hint of what will happen if all four fails. This omission should be addressed and another checkmark on the "can't trust" side of the ledger should be added. The last leg of this pipeline route traverses some of the most delicate and vital biodiversity in the region. There is no number low enough to even consider the granting of this permit based on arbitrary incidental take numbers. We can't trust them to be honest and cautious and do everything in their power to do the least amount of damage during the completion of this project. It's more likely they'll fudge the numbers of the lives they crushed as they literally plow through and adjacent to public lands, across yet healthy habitat including crystal clear streams teeming with life part of vital and endangered forest watersheds that feed deep springs and aquifers. Lastly I ask that you take time to really listen to the people who have sent videos, written clearly researched and organized facts, testimony, references, first person accounts of the trauma from the relentless pursuit from industry's most cunning agents who thrive on pushing the boundaries to see how far they can bend them. It is difficult to imagine waking up every day with the fear of losing everything that you'd work so hard for if that never is likely to happen to you. But when you've gladly worked hard and earned what you have - and along comes a corporation and their partners and contractors who are all paid well to cheat or steal as much property with or without mineral rights to increase profits and dividends. And landowner's reality means they are now bound to endure future abuses from unwanted and unwarranted measures of control. All manner of inconveniences and days and days of living in defense mode because these entities have a measure of control over the quality of their lives and on the lands, they once called home. The corporate bosses don't have to suffer these consequences and therefore continuing to trust them to adhere to new ground rules. Most of the individuals involved with the construction and management don't

have any type of connection or knowledge of the terrain they propose to do the dangerously impossible. To be honest, even if carried out to the letter of the regulation there will be negative impacts at every step of this process and far into the future. So, again we ask, why would the USFS put their trust in pipeline management or anyone working for this project's lead contractors and subcontractors who have proven they are likely to continue underperform which has compounded the damage and destruction along this route so far? The people who have consistently warned federal agencies, regulatory bodies and courts of the negligence and defiance of the law remain in opposition to this and projects like it. The reasons to oppose are countless but all fall under the fact that they're unnecessary as they serve no purpose other than to enrich and empower a select few to the majority's detriment. Far too many people involved with this ill-fated project have without exception have flaunted authority and ignored their responsibilities. Thank you for your time and consideration of my comments, Brenda Jo McManam