Donald Jones testimony (MVP)

Thank you, Russell. My name is Donald Jones. We have land in Newport, Virginia in Giles County. It’s been in the family since the late 1700s. I'm generation seven. My dad, he was fighting this thing up to the point of him having a stroke. And so now it's kind of on my shoulders to continue to fight.

This land’s been passed down over generation over generation. It's gonna continue to be passed down. This invasion of this pipeline on our lives and our property is very unwelcome. It's really taking a toll on our health. We have a spring that's deeded water rights from the 1881 that's in jeopardy of being blasted through this karst terrain. It's got three deeded water rights to other farms neighboring. That's a major concern of ours.

Now we just want to pass on to our next generations: my son, my grandson, the stories of going down in lower fields, angling yourself right at the three trees and hollering up the hollow, but hearing the echo come right back to you. You know, we're envisioning whether that echo will come back after this proposed pipeline, if it comes through. Clearing these trees off the mountain, whether that echo’s going to come back to you or not. That stuff I’d still like to pass on.

It's not fair that the U.S. isn't standing up and fighting for our property rights. This shouldn't be allowed to happen. You can kind of visualize the Mountain Valley Pipeline is an interstate with no exits. There's no benefit for us. Thank you.