

VICKIE TERRY: Hello. Thank you, first of all, for giving us a chance to be heard. I am Vickie Terry. I am also from the Clear Fork Valley. I'm privileged to live in a beautiful -- on a beautiful ridge in the mountains. It kills me -- I hate to leave to even be here, but this is important. I have let -- For six or seven years, I have watched the ridge across from me be blown apart and disappear. And I can't explain the pain. I'm going to cry. I'm sorry. I can't explain the pain. It's like watching somebody you know of die. You see them mountains being blown apart. And because we are trying to save the mountains, I will be submitting a very lengthy comment also, written comment, because this three-minute thing isn't going to do it. I could write a book. But I'm going to be more personal and try to pull at your heart strings. Because of Save the Mountain and stuff, I became aware of all the health effects and the water quality. And we water test. We monitor our own water because we have been able to the coal mine and the regulations that are in place isn't the violations up there. I can show you with -- I can show you violations. And they are not being enforced. Nobody is enforcing any regulations. We are watching our water quality go down. We don't eat fish out of the creeks anymore. We are scared of the fish. And we have to watch where we go swimming now. I mean, it's -- it's crazy. We have to worry about living in the most clean environment in the world and it is surreal that we have such bad air quality and water. But the health effects alone, we have -- The last teacher in our elementary school -- my grandchildren go to school, and my children went to school. She is thirty years old. When she just turned thirty-one the other day, she is the last teacher that -- to have her gallbladder removed. My granddaughter, fourteen, had her gallbladder removed last month -- last year. Her friends -- Everybody is losing their gallbladders in our community. Kind of seemed a little odd to us. And we have seen an increase in cancer and respiratory diseases. There is -- They are saying - - And being on this planet fifty-eight years, I don't need any science to tell me there ain't a climate change. And, you know, it just -- being a grandmother, a hands-on grandmother, not raising them, thank God. I just enjoy them and send them home. But I am a hands-on grandmother, and I worry so much about their teacher and this is -- My youngest granddaughter will be speaking next and she doesn't know what she is going to say, so be patient with her, but she is the one with the asthma and coal, I'm sure it has a lot to do with it. Thank you.