



Dear POWHR Member Groups, Supporters and Movement Partners,

Once upon a time, a destructive fracked gas pipeline proposal interrupted the lives of our communities along a 300 mile stretch of Virginia and West Virginia. Little did this coalition of scientists, directly impacted landowners, lawyers, grassroots organizers, artists, professors, students, Indigenous water protectors, allied organizations and so many others know, we would be joined together in an epic seven year battle against the Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP). Little did we know, this fight would unite us against the behemoth fossil fuel industry and the government processes that attempted to stifle our voices while ignoring the desecration of crystal clear mountain water and imminent climate catastrophe.

We will stop this unnecessary fossil fuel project. We are here to stand for a future where Appalachians are respected and protected, alongside this unique, biodiverse, and ecologically spectacular region we call home. We envision a future where protecting water, biodiversity, and our futures are the primary objectives of our state and federal agencies. Where we swiftly transition from fossil fuels to clean renewable energy, with a focus on energy justice and environmental justice. Where Appalachia's complex web of cultural, social and environmental constituents can thrive together. We hope you will join us in growing, sustaining and enacting this vision.

Protect Our Water Heritage Rights (POWHR), through our Joint Plan of Work with Virginia Organizing, is an ever-evolving leader of the Appalachian climate and environmental justice movement. POWHR is just one fraction of those who still rally together today, saying: this will not stand, we will protect our water, communities and mountains from this destructive project.

Here's a sample of what POWHR accomplished this year, in the growing the movement to stop MVP:

- In solidarity with Black and Indigenous leaders, POWHR organized against the proposed MVP Southgate Lambert Compressor Station. Directly impacted communities and advocates' work and testimony convinced the Virginia Air Pollution Control Board to deny a key air pollution permit on December 3rd, 2021 in a 6-1 decision.
- POWHR's Mountain Valley Watch construction monitoring project submitted over 14 reports to state and federal agencies. The reports are replete with detailed technical analysis and evidence of MVP's failure to abide by the law.
- We partnered with Wild Virginia and Appalachian Voices to host the Peoples' Hearing on the MVP Clean Water Act Section 401 permit, where over 40 citizens were able to deliver testimony to the State Water Control Board, after DEQ did not provide a virtual hearing option.
- We hired a Communications Director, Denali Nalamalapu, who is already innovating how we tell the stories of this long fight, elevating MVP resistance to the national stage and developing relationships with media professionals. POWHR was featured in the media dozens of times this year, we are creating our own media through POWHR's year-end blog series, and we are steadily reaching a larger social media audience.

We're not giving up, and we're not going away. We are calling on you to strengthen POWHR's growth as a movement leader, join us in our commitment to defeat the MVP, and sustain our mission by donating to POWHR's 2021 Annual Appeal through December 31, 2021. Thank you for your incredible support of our coalition.

In gratitude and solidarity, POWHR Co-Chairs Roberta Bondurant and Russell Chisholm

To donate, visit: powhr.org/donate, or make a check out to: Virginia Organizing, and put POWHR in the memo line. Send Checks to: PO Box 809, Pembroke, VA 24136

Virginia Organizing is a 501(c)(3) organization that accepts grants and donations on behalf of POWHR. Virginia Organizing is officially registered with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P.O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209. You can write to this Department for all relevant financial statements and procedures regarding the solicitation of contributions. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Sign up for POWHR's newsletter here: <http://eepurl.com/hwo1Xj> or scan the QR code.

