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Letter to the Editor from Dana O. Olson, M.D.

An Open Letter to Senator Manchin

We appreciate your looking out for our state and our nation and for the common sense that you have brought.

We need your help.

Our community and our state are under attack by the gas companies. EQT and now Williams. This includes the proposed Mountain Valley Pipeline planned to run through the Karst geology of Monroe County. They mean to condemn the land with a 42 inch gas line to cross through us over to Virginia.

These organizations are skillful. They held back so this would not be an issue in the election.

And what about ethical conduct? Starting "community open houses", during the Holiday season!!!

It speaks volumes about the Wall Street/ Corporate mindset, to push this crude plan, to start this "outreach" during the holiday season, when we need to focus on our children and families. We've finally learned the Grinch's true name and it is David Porges, the President of EQT.

These monster lines will drive a stake through the heart of our area. Our area is Karst, partial eroded limestone with multiple caves, with water moving through underground tributaries, with multiple springs. Our water is the life of our communities. The monster lines would bring herbicides (eliminating organic farming), drones and terrorist targets.

Why this old fashioned slash and trash mentality?

Why can't there be intelligence? Why can't there be innovation? Why can't there be multiple, smaller, integrated, distributed, networked, flexible systems? Why can't we

be resourceful and have these follow existing right-of-ways, highways, railroads, power lines? Why do we have to desecrate lands that should be protected? Why destroy our national forests?

This slash and trash approach is something of the past. Fracking is not a good thing going into the future. It is a practice that will someday be banned. It is already banned in France.

We see our country changing direction. We see Wall Street/ Corporate ethics and have to ask why not another way? We even see Utilities pushing back on solar energy! We all know that renewables and intelligent conservation are the future.

West Virginia has more to offer than mineral extraction and a place to cut a pathway to somewhere else. This is a good place. The real value is in our people. Our clean water. Our creativity. Our faith. Positive constructive people will tire of earthquakes, fires, overcrowding; and the West Virginia we now know will draw them here. We travel more by wire in modern times anyway. We see West Virginia preserved for a golden age for our country. West Virginia is a jewel to be cherished, protected and if needed, fought for.

Could you please call David Porges, the President of EQT and ask that the holiday season public meetings be delayed? It's a time for family and focus. This is not how a good citizen acts in our area.

Would you please come to the meeting at the Lindsie Methodist Church on January 13, 2015?

Please call the Grinch/ David Porges and ask him to reschedule the holiday meetings,

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