

Maria Gunnoe, Bob White, WV

The mining companies want to destroy the land and the water, but I'm not leaving. I'm here for the long haul. I'm going to continue fighting.

can cause deadly lung diseases.

Blasts shake and crack homes, destroy wells and send huge rocks rolling down hillsides. Mining dust covers homes and

Damage From Blasting and Dust

have been destroyed by dumping waste into valley streams. Conservative estimates say that over 2,000 miles of streams permanently removing habitat for hundreds of species. destroyed by mountaintop removal, Over 500 mountains have been

Destruction of Mountains and Habitat

life are forever altered. are destroyed, and a people's way of homes and access to cemeteries. The displaces people and destroys ancestral culture. Mountaintop removal mining Mountains are the heart of Appalachian

Loss of Heritage



hard and barren, causing flash floods and landslides. communities from flooding. Mountaintop removal sites are Topsoil and trees absorb rainfall, which helps protect valley

Increased Flooding

known as sludge impoundments. underground or filling valleys to create giant retention ponds processing—called sludge or slurry—is disposed by pumping it off releases harmful chemicals into water. The waste from coal water, and pollute streams. Valley fill run- entire communities' drinking and bath water. Toxins from coal processing poison Many rural areas are dependent on well

Contamination of Water Supplies

sites have been developed. but less than 5% of mountaintop removal land is needed for economic development, than underground mining. Some claim flat Mountaintop removal takes fewer workers

Job Opportunities Loss of Economy and



Mountaintop Removal Destroys Our Communities



Photo by Paul Corbitt Brown.com

MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL COAL MINING

Devastating communities in Appalachia and destroying America's oldest mountains.

WHAT IS MOUNTAINTOP REMOVAL?

Mountaintop removal is a method of extracting coal that occurs in Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia and Virginia. This dangerous and destructive practice has destroyed over 1 million acres of land.

The trees are bulldozed, the mountaintops are blown off, and tons of debris are dumped in the valleys. Less than 5% of mountaintop removal sites have been "reclaimed" for commercial / economic use; native forests destroyed during the process will not grow back for generations—if ever.

Our electricity connects us to mountaintop removal coal mining. When we flip our light switches, we may be contributing to the destruction of mountains, communities and even lives.

TAKE ACTION TO STOP IT

- Find out if your home uses mountaintop removal coal for electricity and hear community members' stories at our partnership website ilovemountains.org.
- Urge the Obama administration to reinstate the original intent of the Clean Water Act and to prevent mining waste from being used as fill material. Urge your legislators to enforce regulations on coal and endorse renewable energy, energy efficiency, and conservation.
- Spread the word by hosting speakers and movie nights, planning fundraisers, writing letters to your local paper, and sharing info on the internet.
- Use less energy and work for renewable energy at home, at work and in your community.

The Alliance for Appalachia is a coalition working to end mountaintop removal coal mining and support a just, sustainable economy in Appalachia.

Please contact a member of The Alliance for Appalachia to learn how you can see mountaintop removal firsthand and to get involved in stopping this destructive practice.

KENTUCKY

- **Appalachian Citizens Law Center**
appalachianlawcenter.org / (606) 633-3929
- **Appalshop**
appalshop.org / (606) 633-0108
- **Kentuckians For The Commonwealth**
kftc.org / (606) 878-2161
- **Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED)**
maced.org / (859) 986-2373

TENNESSEE

- **Save Our Cumberland Mountains**
socm.org / (865) 426-9455

VIRGINIA

- **Southern Appalachian Mountain Stewards**
samsva.org / (276) 523-4380

WEST VIRGINIA

- **Coal River Mountain Watch**
crmw.net / (304) 854-2182
- **Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition**
ohvec.org / (304) 522-0246
- **West Virginia Highlands Conservancy**
wvhighlands.org / (304) 924-5802

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Appalachian Voices**
appalachianvoices.org / (828) 262-1500
- **Heartwood**
heartwood.org / (812) 723-2437
- **Sierra Club Environmental Justice Program**
sierraclub.org/ej / (304) 389-8822 / (423) 944 3220
- **SouthWings**
southwings.org / (828) 225-5949

www.TheAllianceForAppalachia.org

Join us as we create a more sustainable path

But There IS Another Way..



Appalachian coal counties worked hard to fuel the nation and make America rich—and yet they remain among the poorest regions in the United States.

However, many new projects seek to create a more just and sustainable transition away from the unstable boom and bust economy of coal.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

creates jobs, saves residents money and reduces coal use.

Renewable Energy projects can

■ **Tourism** is among the fastest growing industries in Appalachia and encourages small business growth.

■ **Sustainable Forestry** provides long-term income while preserving valuable native plants.

“We should not divorce our history, but it is time that we begin to create a new history, and become part of a solution to save our state, our country, and the world.”

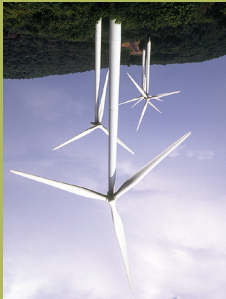


Photo by Mark Schmeidler

Kathy Selva, Wise County, VA