**Reilly, Carolyn - Property Rights/Eminent Domain**

I can start with Lee introducing me as being with Bold Alliance but I don't know how to follow what Ray just said because the people you see in this picture are my children and this is my life. This is a creek, one of the creeks. We've been fighting the Mountain Valley pipeline for over three years now. Our family, we didn't sign up for it. I don't think any landowner or anybody that's near a compressor station, anybody here that has spoken signed up for this, right? I mean we are trying to live our lives the best we can and work and play, be with our families, our friends. I tried writing things down I just could not come up with what to say, so I'm winging it, so bear with me here.

Water is life, we won't back down because there's a banner that's actually displayed up there that someone made. I believe it was some activist from the Blue Ridge Rapid Response Team who made it, and they showed up for us in September after we were dragged to court to allow surveyors on our land to finally survey for this pipeline because we've been resisting as hard as we can. It was the archaeological surveying, the cultural surveying that they were doing. A year ago Standing Rock was happening, and many of us watched what was going on. And being a white woman who's been complaining about property rights and saying this is wrong, this is constitutionally a problem, I had to analyze and look at myself really hard and look at the dirt and the water that all of us are working to protect so dearly and hold close. I had to acknowledge the history of this country and that I'm a part of the colonization. The land that my family owns, we haven't been there for generations; we've been there six and a half years, but it's stolen land that we are fighting for and I want to honor the history of the land and the people.

I'm grateful for the many faces that are here today and the many hearts and the many spirits that have been on this journey to defend and protect what is sacred for all of us in this region. I just am in awe of what has happened today. I'm very grateful to be just one blip of it. I think and I believe and I know that every word, every action that we take matters. Everything that you do and say in the coming months and years is important. We're doing it for the children, we're doing it for all the generations. Let us continue to rise up and fight back and defend what is sacred.