

As you consider HB 656, keep in mind that Wise County is one of the most devastated counties in the world from mining activities. They have no need to deal with garbage of bituminous coal (gob) from every corner and then with a higher load of mercury, arsenic, and coal ash on their lands and waters. The drainage would be into Clinch River -- the home of endanger mussels and fish. There is no pressing need for all the gob piles to be burned.

The burning of fossil fuels should have stopped yesterday. Coal power plants add greenhouses gases. New record heat confirmed within 6 miles of the Artic Circle of 100 degrees, and the record of 64.9 degrees in the Antarctic. Siberia is going from ice to fires that burn year around. Scientists are stunned at the rate of melt. The huge ice shelf that is breaking off Antarctic will no longer block a massive, massive glacier. The melting of that glacier will raise the sea levels in New Port News, Norfolk, and in the Chesapeake Bay.

The warming of the oceans affect ocean currents. The Gulf Stream slows and may be on the cusp of major change so the rainfall amounts we need in the east for the forests and agriculture will be no longer.

Dominion Energy has its own resources and supplies many states with coal and nuclear power. If you would incentivize their helping households and governments to go solar or other true clean energy moves , I would suggest the money move in that direction. In fact, a higher rebate for households below say \$125 k to get a higher rebate to go solar would serve the state.

This bill just adds to calamity. Like what happened in Hurley, Virginia with such heavy rainfall in a short period of time. If that event had happened at night, they say it would have cost 100 lives. You may not know but an engineer told me of a 35 inch rain event a few years ago. Sections of Highway 58 --one lane lost in three curves--above Stuart were wiped out. Our creek ran under and over the meadow. We have just lost orchard due to fire blight.

Now we have only two seasons--hot and cold- and the hot is gaining. The gentle slow warming Appalachian Spring is long gone. Animal and insect populations are crashing. Read *A Life on Our Planet* by David Attenborough.