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Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Surface Transportation Board Office of Proceedings
395 E Street, SW
Washington, DC 20423

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings
January 21, 2021
Part of
Public Record

CC: Parties of Record

RE: Docket No. FD 36471

Dear Cynthia,

As I landowner in Chaffee County and a long time raft guide on the Eagle and Arkansas Rivers, I am writing to request that neither Colorado Midland & Pacific Railway or Colorado Pacific Railroad, or any other railroad companies, shall be allowed to restart service on the Tennessee Pass rail line.

I have been a raft guide in the Eagle and Arkansas River Valleys since 1992. I remember my early years of guiding in the Eagle Valley and loading boats at our Minturn boathouse with a haze of diesel smoke hanging over the valley. I also remember the first year of no trains in the valley and how much of a difference that made to the air quality. The sulfuric acid spill in the 90's not only closed the road; it contaminated the surrounding environment and threatened the Eagle River.

Since the closure of the railroad, the Arkansas River section along the line has been designated a gold medal fishing river. This designation occurred because much time and effort were spent cleaning up the river from environmental damages caused by earlier land practices. The Brown's canyon section has also been designated a National Monument. A designation worthy of protection. When I'm guiding along the stretches of river between Granite and Salida, I often see Bighorn Sheep grazing along the old tracks, osprey nesting on the old train bridges, birds of prey hunting from the old power poles, and other wildlife using the corridor. All this would be threatened by the addition of trains through the valley.

The populations in the Eagle and Arkansas River Valleys have grown significantly in the last 25 years; with most of the people moving to the valleys because of the natural beauty of the areas. The addition of trains and the related pollution from diesel smoke, noise, track grease, and other railroad related pollution would negatively impact both valleys greatly.

Please do your part to help keep these valleys train free.

Sincerely,

Gregory A Davidson
Digitally signed by
Gregory A Davidson
Date: 2021.01.21
13:55:01 -07'00'

Greg Davidson
32210 County Road 371
Buena Vista, Colorado 81211