

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Environmental Analysis

June 19, 2019

[Name]

[Address]

Re: Docket No. FD 36284, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition—Construction & Operation Exemption—in Utah, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, Utah; **Invitation to Section 106 Consultation**

Dear [Contact Name]:

The Surface Transportation Board (Board) hereby invites you to participate as a consulting party under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for the Board's review of the proposed Uinta Basin Railway project.

The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition (Coalition) plans to request Board authority to construct and operate an approximately 80-mile rail line between two terminus points in the Uinta Basin near Myton, Utah, and Leland Bench, Utah, and the interstate rail network. The Coalition's proposed rail line would extend generally southwest from terminus points near Myton and Leland Bench to a connection with an existing rail line owned by Union Pacific Railway Company (UP) near Kyune, Utah. It would generally parallel U.S. Route 191 through Indian Canyon and would be located within Utah, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties in Utah (Indian Canyon Route). The Coalition has also identified two potential alternatives to the Indian Canyon Route that the Coalition believes would be economically and technically feasible. One of those proposed alternatives would connect the terminus points near Myton and Leland Bench to the UP rail line near Kyune by following Wells Draw and Argyle Canyon, crossing Utah, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties in Utah (Wells Draw Route). The other proposed alternative would extend eastward from the terminus points near Myton and Leland Bench to a connection with a UP rail line near Craig, Colorado, and would cross Uintah and Duchesne Counties in Utah as well as Moffat and Rio Blanco Counties in Colorado (Craig Route). More information is available on the project website at www.UintaBasinRailwayEIS.com.

The Board's Office of Environmental Analysis is conducting an environmental and historic preservation review of the proposed rail line construction project in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act and related laws and regulations, including Section 106, and its implementing regulations at 36 Code of Federal Regulations Part 800.

This letter has two purposes:

- First, to learn whether your [tribe/agency/organization] is interested in participating as a Consulting Party. We have enclosed a Consultation Options Form (Attachment B) that we hope makes it easier for you to select the level of involvement that you are interested in. If we do not hear back from you, we will assume that you do not want to participate as a Section 106 Consulting Party.

ATTACHMENT B: NHPA SECTION 106 CONSULTATION OPTIONS FORM

[Insert name of agency/tribe/organization]

Surface Transportation Board Docket No. FD 36284, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition—Construction & Operation Exemption—in Utah, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, Utah

Project Name: Uinta Basin proposed rail line

Please check all the appropriate response(s) that apply from the list

_____ We have no interests associated with the Coalition’s proposed rail line and further consultation with our organization is not required.

_____ We want to continue to receive project information by mail and participate in the public involvement process.

_____ We have an interest in the Coalition’s proposed rail line and want to participate as a “Consulting Party” in the Section 106 of the NHPA process.

_____ We have included comments regarding potential historic properties in the project area and/or potential impacts to historic properties on the back of this form or on additional sheets.

Name of [agency/tribe/organization] designated contact for Section 106 Consultation for the Surface

Transportation Board’s decision on whether to allow the Coalition to construct and operate a new rail line in Utah:

Please print

Name: _____

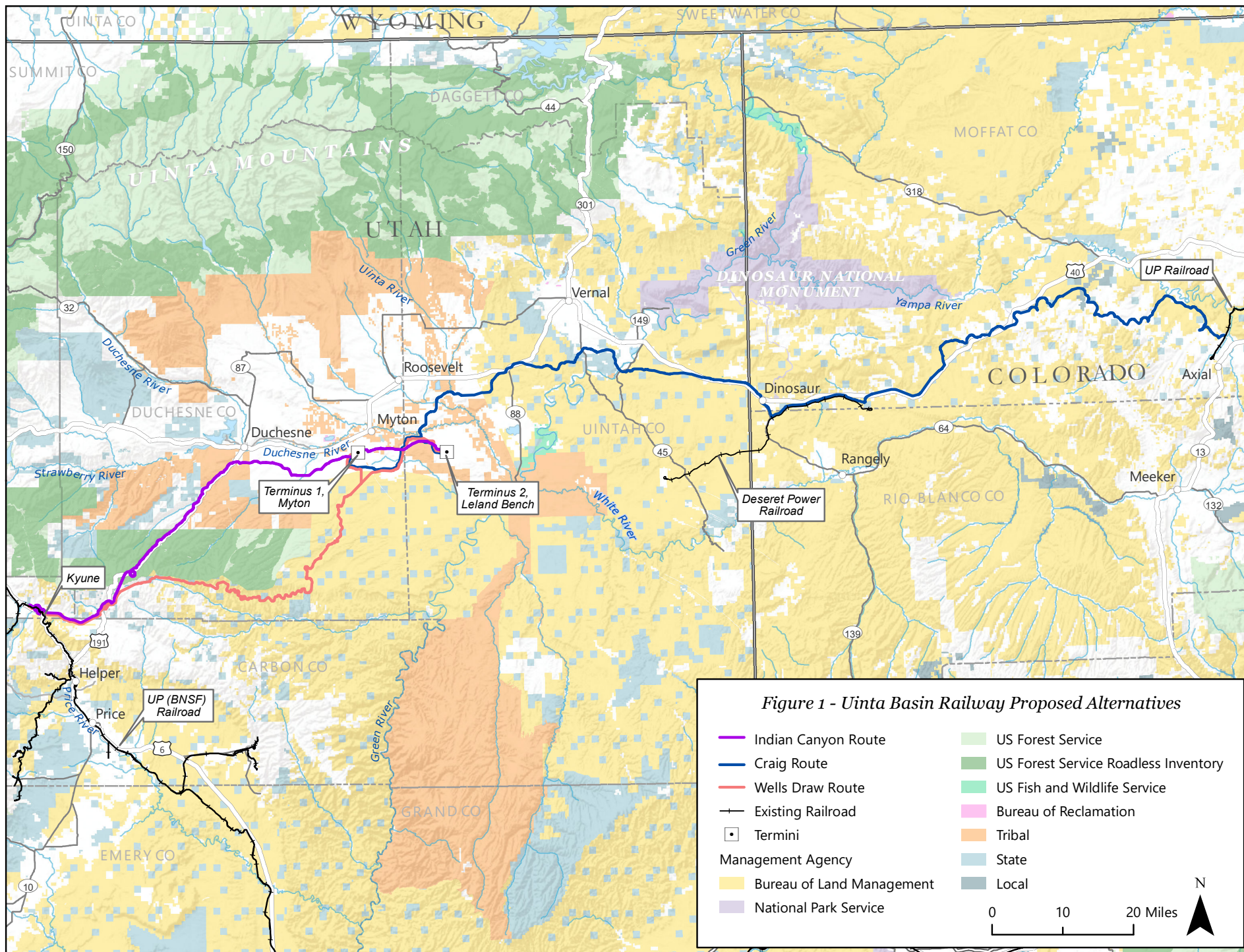
Phone: _____

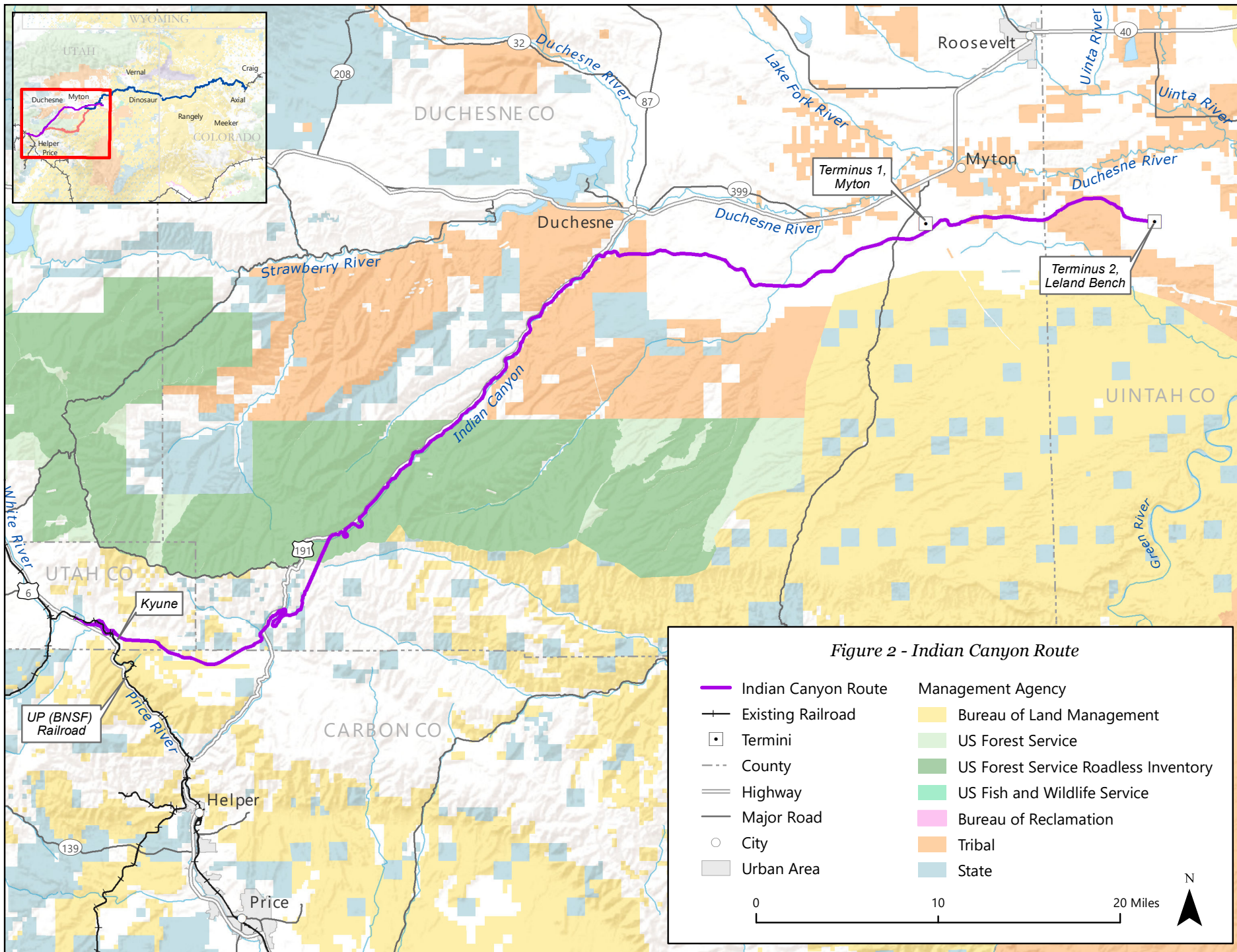
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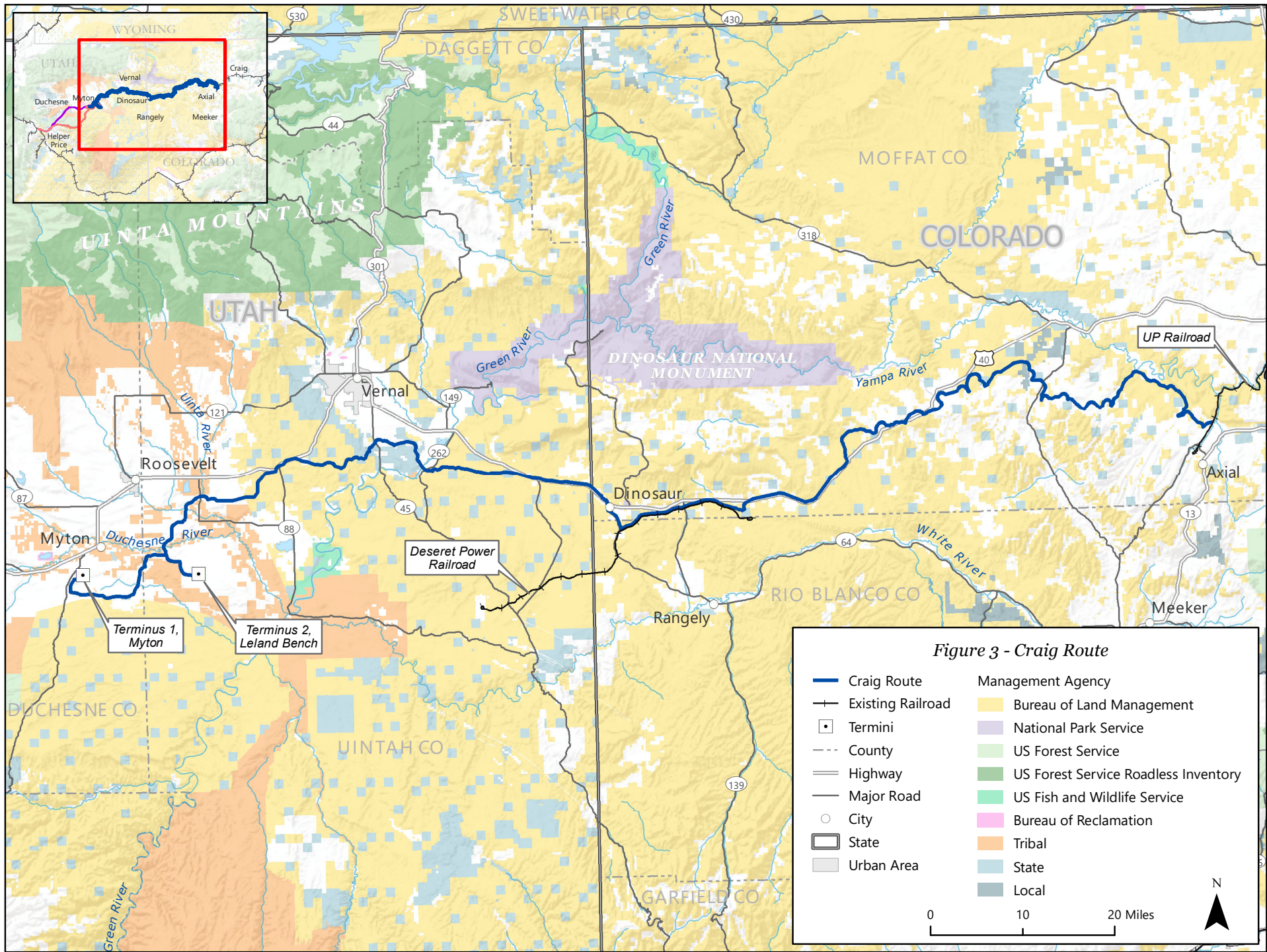
Signed: _____

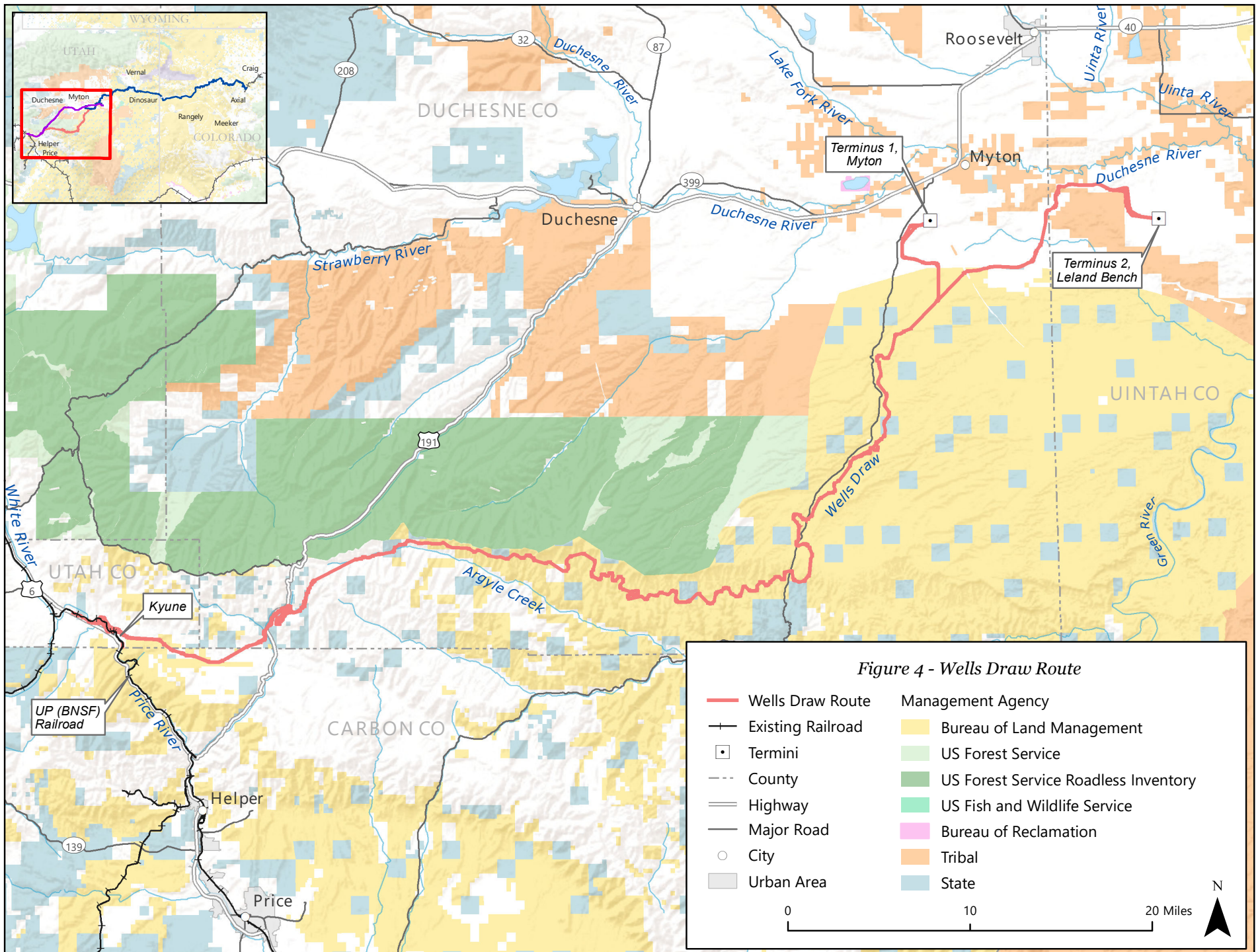
Date: _____

Please mail to: Joshua Wayland
Surface Transportation Board
Docket No. FD 36284
c/o 9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031







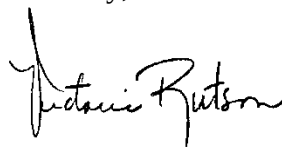


- Second, to provide an opportunity for you to submit comments on either historic properties and/or potential effects on historic properties that may be located in the area and that should be afforded close attention in the environmental analysis.

For your reference, Attachment A to this letter includes a map of the potential alternatives currently being considered. Additional information on this project is available on the Board's website at www.UintaBasinRailwayEIS.com. Attachment B is the Consultations Options Form discussed above.

Joshua Wayland of my staff will be leading the Section 106 consultation for the project. You may contact him at 202-245-0330 or at Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Victoria" and last name "Rutson" clearly distinguishable.

Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Attachments:

A: Maps of Potential Alternatives

B: NHPA Section 106 Consultation Options Form