



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423
Office of Environmental Analysis

June 19, 2019

«Tribal_Organization»
 «Title» «Name»
 «Address»
 «City_State_Zip»

Re: Docket No. FD 36284, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition—Construction and Operation in Utah, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties, Utah: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, Draft Scope of Study, Notice of Scoping Meetings, Request for Comments on Draft Scope; Request for Consultation Preferences

Dear «Contact Name»:

I am writing to let you know that a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed railroad project in eastern Utah has been issued today and is available at www.UintaBasinRailwayEIS.com.

Description of the Proposed Project

The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition (Coalition), an intergovernmental entity established by the counties of Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, San Juan, Sevier, and Uintah in Utah plans to seek authority from the Surface Transportation Board (Board) to construct and operate an approximately 80-mile rail line between two terminus points within the Uinta Basin in Utah and an existing Union Pacific rail line near Kyune, Utah. According to the Coalition, approximately seven trains would move along the proposed rail line per day, on average, carrying such commodities as crude oil, fracturing equipment and supplies, and other mineral and agricultural products.

The Notice of Intent

The construction and operation of the Coalition's proposed rail line has the potential to result in significant environmental impacts; therefore, the Board's Office of Environmental Analysis (OEA) has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is appropriate pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended (42 U.S.C. § 4321 *et seq.*). Today, OEA issued a Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS, Draft Scope of Study, Notice of Scoping Meetings, and Request for Comments on the Draft Scope of Study, which can be viewed on a Board-sponsored project website at www.UintaBasinRailwayEIS.com by clicking on "Notice of Intent" under "Related Links & Documents." The project website includes a map of the project area, including the Coalition's preferred route and proposed alternative routes. Following the scoping period, OEA will review the scoping comments and then finalize the Scope of Study, including the final list of alternatives for the proposed rail line to be

carried forward for detailed study in the EIS. ICF, OEA's third-party contractor, will be assisting OEA throughout its EIS process.

How to Comment on the Draft Scope of Study

We invite you to participate in this EIS scoping process and would appreciate your written comments on the Draft Scope of Study and potential alternatives to the Coalition's proposed route by the close of the scoping comment period on **August 2, 2019**.

Scoping comments may also be submitted electronically on the Board's website, www.stb.gov, by clicking on the "E-FILING" link on the home page and then selecting "Environmental Comments." Log-in accounts are not needed to file environmental comments electronically, and comments may be typed into the text box provided or attached as a file. If you have difficulties with the e-filing process, please call 202-245-0330.

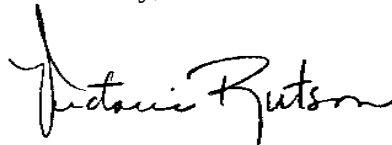
Please send your written comments to Joshua Wayland, PhD, OEA's Project Manager for the EIS, at the address below:

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

The Board is also interested in knowing whether your tribe is interested in consulting with us regarding the broader range of impacts assessed under NEPA including those to tribal lands and resources. To assist you in your response, I have attached a questionnaire regarding any future involvement your tribe may want in the overall NEPA process. I respectfully request that you complete the questionnaire and return it to Joshua Wayland of my staff at your earliest convenience. The Board will also be initiating consultation with Consulting Parties under the National Historic Preservation Act, including any tribe that attaches religious and cultural significance to historic properties that may be affected by this undertaking.

Please sign up to be added to the project's email distribution list to receive future communications. To sign up, please go to the project website, click on "Project Mailing List," and complete and submit the form. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project in more detail, please feel free to contact Dr. Wayland by phone at 202-245-0330 or email at Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov. We look forward to your participation in the Board's environmental review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Victoria Rutson".

Victoria Rutson
Director
Office of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure: Consultation Questionnaire

cc: «CC»

CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

«Tribal_Organization»

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

Project Name: Uinta Basin Railway Environmental Impact Statement

Please check all the appropriate response(s) that apply from the list below and use the back of this form or additional sheets if you wish to make comments:

_____ No further involvement in government-to-government consultation during the EIS process

_____ Continued receipt of project information and participation through the public involvement process

_____ by email

_____ by U.S. mail

_____ Participation in government-to-government consultation

Name of the «Tribal_Organization» designated contact for the Uinta Basin Railway EIS:

_____ Phone: _____
Please Print Name

E-mail: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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

Or email to: Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov