

Wayland, Joshua

From: Darrell Fordham <darrellfordham@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 09, 2019 5:30 PM
To: Wayland, Joshua
Subject: Landowner Scoping Meeting Notification Errors
Attachments: STB Landowner Postcard - Scoping Meetings.pdf

Importance: High

Mr. Wayland,

I was recently contacted by several landowners in the Argyle Canyon area who received the attached postcards from the STB regarding the upcoming scoping meetings for the Uinta Basin Railway Project. As you can see, these postcards show a conflicting location for the meeting on Friday, July 19th at 10am. This is extremely frustrating and disheartening to us landowners, as this type of miscommunication about meetings regarding this project has already happened several times before by the Project Proponent, Seven County Infrastructure Coalition. The SCIC has repeatedly sent out meeting notifications to landowners weeks after the meetings had already taken place. This has happened so many times with this Uinta Basin Railway Project that it is beginning to feel like it is intentional.

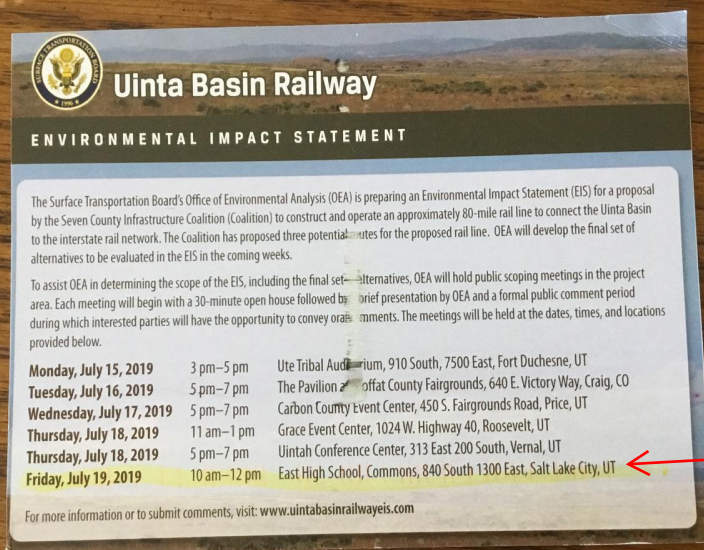
That said, if you could answer the following questions for me as soon as possible I would sincerely appreciate it:

1. Please confirm the correct location for the Scoping Meeting on Friday July 19th.
2. Please explain who is responsible for publishing the wrong location and the circumstances that resulted in the error.
3. If the East High School location that was printed on the postcards is the incorrect location, please explain how the STB intends to remedy the misinformation. If new postcards are not going to be mailed out to everyone that received the ones with the incorrect information then we feel that the affected landowners and the public – essentially anyone who received the deceptive information – are going to be unduly harmed and their ability to attend the meeting in Salt Lake City to learn about the project and express their concerns and comments is going to be compromised unfairly.
4. Please clarify who these postcards were mailed to, as it appears that there has been very little rhyme or reason as to who received the postcards and who did not, again as was the case with multiple rounds of notification from SCIC.
5. Please review and confirm that the dates, times, and locations currently displayed on the STB's Project Website (www.uintabasinrailwayeis.com) are correct, as there was also an incorrect address for the meeting on Monday July 15th in Fort Duchesne.
6. I have looked at the "Submit Comments" link on STB's Project Website. The comment section only allows comments to be submitted in plain text format, such that paragraphs, formatting, etc. are not correctly displayed. We feel that this makes submitted comments very difficult to read and understand and causes them to lose much of their effectiveness. Is there something that can be done to modify the web form, or is the only alternative to submit comments via email?

I trust that you can sense and understand our frustration with the continued lack of communication, misinformation, selective landowner notification, etc. regarding this project. This, coupled with Seven County Infrastructure Coalition's continued refusal to make public project cost information and estimates and assumptions, financial feasibility studies, project financing plans, route selection evaluation criteria and information (all of which has been done in secret, behind closed doors, without public involvement or access), and proposed route mapping, has served to severely limit the public's and affected landowners' and stakeholders' ability to evaluate and effectively comment on the proposed project. This Uinta Basin Railway Project is not of little significance, and has the potential to negatively impact hundreds of landowners and their families. Your urgent attention to these matters would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Darrell Fordham
Argyle Wilderness Preservation Alliance
(801) 301-4190



STB's EIS website indicates this meeting will be at the Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown 215 West South Temple