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Commenter: Jack Ballard

Organization:

State: Montana

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

Please note I am opposed to the Tongue River railroad project. Any of the proposed routes will negatively impact ranchers in the area and profoundly alter the historic and cultural character of the area. It is also unknown what affects the railroad would have on wildlife. During the 2010-11 winter, hundreds of antelope were killed by trains on tracks in northeastern Montana, a repeat of which is certainly possible on this rail line. Furthermore, since the coal from the mine would be primarily used out of country and certainly out of the region, it seems the impact of the railroad unduly affects local residents in relation to its benefits.