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Organization: jonnel covault picture framing

State: Oregon

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

Please reject the proposal for the Tongue River Railroad extensions to the mines at Otter Creek and Ashland. Ultimately, some, if not all of this coal will make its way by rail down the Beautiful and Historic Columbia River Gorge. Tons of toxic dust from coal trains traveling next to the Columbia River add toxic chemicals to the water which can affect already stressed salmon runs. Thousands of sockeye salmon are dying now, August 2015, because of heated water from dams and climate change. If we are going to leave a livable planet for future generations it is time to stop burning coal NOW. Exporting coal is even more despicable, as it is truly about profits, not America's energy independence. Please reject this proposal! Thank you for your consideration.