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Organization:

State: Montana

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

1.This project would actually cost coal miners jobs. Other Powder River Basin mines are barely hanging on, and would likely be closed if this project moves forward. 2.There is insufficient analysis on impacts to livestock and ranching operations, Native American cultural sites, and Amish communities that stand in the way of the project. 3.The Draft Environmental Impact Statement makes the asinine assertion that not building the railroad will increase greenhouse-gas emissions. Are you kidding me? 4.Arch Coal and BNSF Railway consider the area "low-risk" for wildfires despite the fact that hundreds of thousands of acres across the proposed project landscape were scorched in 2013. 5.There is not an adequate discussion of the difficulty of building a coal mine, new railroad, and the requisite supporting infrastructure in the rugged landscape of eastern Montana, which will involve drastic amounts of earthmoving and impacts to landowners and wildlife. 6.The analysis incorrectly claims that the project would result in only minor adverse cumulative impacts on groundwater despite lessons we've learned elsewhere in the Powder River Basin. From: Last Chance for Public Comments on the Tongue River Railroad (the worst idea ever) by Amanda Jahshan; http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/ajahshan/last_chance_for_public_comment.html It is time to stop digging up our beautiful state for the financial gain of a few outsiders!!! SAY NO TO COAL MINES!! PROTECT AND LOVE MONTANA, THE LAST BEST PLACE!!!!