

Wayland, Joshua

From: Ryan Beam <RBeam@biologicaldiversity.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 02, 2019 2:51 PM
To: Wayland, Joshua
Subject: RE: Uinta Basin Railway NEPA Public Notice

Thanks Josh,

A few questions:

- Will the draft Scope of Study kick off the public scoping period? If not, when can we expect that and how long will it run?
- Where are you planning to hold public meetings and when? As this project would have significant implications for the entire region, I would suggest that it would be important to hold public meetings across the state of Utah (including in Salt Lake City which past public involvement processes in Utah have seemed to avoid in my experience) as well as in locations through which oil trains would be traveling after linking into the national rail network (for example Grand Junction and Denver).
- Are there additional notice lists in addition to the “environmental distribution list” that I could be added to? I am interested in any and all public notices and updates about this project, not just those primarily having to do with the environment.

Thanks again,
 Ryan

Ryan Beam, *Public Lands Campaigner*
 CENTER for BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Pronouns: he/him/his
 Salt Lake City, UT
cell (928) 853-9929

From: Wayland, Joshua [mailto:Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 6:56 AM
To: Ryan Beam
Subject: RE: Uinta Basin Railway NEPA Public Notice

Mr. Beam,

This is to follow up on your email of last week and your phone call earlier this week—I am sorry I was not able to get back to you sooner. Thank you for your interest in the Surface Transportation Board’s environmental review process for the proposed Uinta Basin Railway project. We have added you as the Center for Biological Diversity’s contact on our environmental distribution list. All individuals and organizations on that list will be notified when the Board issues draft environmental documents for public review and comment, as well as of upcoming public meetings related to the proposed project. At this time, we expect to issue a draft Scope of Study later this month and to hold our first public meetings in the project area in early June. Please feel free to call me at the number below if you have questions regarding this case or the Board’s environmental review process.

Best,
 Josh

Joshua Wayland, PhD
 Environmental Protection Specialist

Office of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
202.245.0330

From: Ryan Beam <RBeam@biologicaldiversity.org>
Sent: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 5:07 PM
To: Wayland, Joshua <Joshua.Wayland@stb.gov>
Subject: Uinta Basin Railway NEPA Public Notice

Hi Mr. Wayland,

I would like to request to be included on any email or other distribution lists that the STB or any third party NEPA contractor might be maintaining for all public notices and associated documents relating to the NEPA process for the Uinta Basin Railway. My contact information can be found below.

Please also include me on the invitation list for any NEPA related meetings, field trips, or other events. As you know, the administrative record for this NEPA process should demonstrate that the process occurred without any bias for or against specific stakeholders or groups of interested people.

Please also provide me and other interested people with the draft purpose and need statement(s) and draft Notice of Intent (NOI) for this NEPA process. This is critically important because NEPA experts know that the purpose and need statement(s) can be too narrow or too broad, and this may skew the NEPA analysis and eject otherwise feasible alternatives from detailed evaluation. Similarly, a NOI may contain subtle biases or limitations that could undermine the objectivity of the NEPA process going forward. It is therefore imperative that the public have an opportunity to provide meaningful input on these drafts before they are finalized.

Please let me know if you cannot fulfill any of the preceding requests and, if so, on what basis. Please also let me know if you have any questions or comments relating to my preceding requests.

I look forward to participating in your forthcoming NEPA process.

Thank you very much for your consideration,
Ryan

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