



August 1, 2019

Mr. Joshua Wayland
Surface Transportation Board
9300 Lee Highway
Fairfax, VA 22031

RE: Environmental filing, Docket No. FD 36284-- Proposed Uintah Basin Railway

Heber City, an incorporated municipality of the State of Utah, located in Wasatch County, desires to provide comment on the draft scope of study for the proposed Uintah Basin Railway.

Heber City is located in a geographical area that is itself a source of valuable natural resources, and adjacent to a County rich in oil, gas and minerals. There is a responsibility of stewardship over such lands and resources. Heber City believes it shares in such a stewardship and duty to support good administration and management of such varied stores, assets and reserves.

It is the opinion of Heber City that the proposed 80- mile railway is a reasonable means to link the Uintah Basin to our national railroad network and help develop and expand local and national markets for oil, coal, agricultural products and other resources and goods, both natural and manufactured. There is likely added benefit economically, domestically and intrastate, and perhaps indirectly, internationally. The City agrees, as was expressed by Mike McKee, director of the seven county infrastructure coalition that the railway would open up significant markets for basin goods and provide a lifeline for more jobs in the rural area". These benefits may likely flow the Heber City and Wasatch County as well

Currently, all freight moving into and out of the basin is transported by trucks on the area's limited road network, which includes one north-south two-lane highway (U.S. Highway 191) and one east-west two-lane highway (U.S. Highway 40). U.S. Highway 40 runs through the heart of downtown Heber.

Probably one of the most important considerations for Heber City is the anticipated positive impact such a railway could have in relieving the number of oil tankers moving oil through Wasatch County and downtown Heber City along its Main Street. Tanker traffic in downtown Heber is constant, 24 hours a day, seven days per week, negatively impacting traffic volumes, safety, noise, air quality, and commerce in the downtown area.

Heber City advocates that the draft scope of study for the impact areas of Safety, Transportation System and Environmental Justice include an analysis of the indirect benefits associated with reducing tanker traffic from U.S. Highways 40 and 191 as a result of the Uintah Basin Railway. Heber City also requests that it be added to the project's notification list and have all official notices pertaining to the EIS be sent to 75 N. Main Street, Heber City, Utah, 84032 (Attention Mayor and Council) or emailed to mbrower@heberut.gov.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft scope of study for the proposed Uintah Basin Railway EIS.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelleen Potter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelleen Potter
Heber City Mayor