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Organization: Self

State: Montana

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

STB's Draft EIS doesn't reflect TRRR's real intent. Arch Coal, one of the TRRR partners, is pushing to open a port on the West Coal from which to ship coal to Asia. Another partner, BNSF, has spent millions improving their tracks and other facilities to the west, especially in Sand Point, Idaho. It's clear, regardless of what the Draft EIS alternatives describe, that TRRR proposes moving coal to the West, not to the Midwest. Thus, none of the alternatives examine the real effects of the TRRR proposal. STB needs to start over to complete an honest Draft EIS. Also, the Draft EIS is many multiples of the 250-pp limit prescribed by CEQ NEPA regulations. In addition, the Draft EIS doesn't follow prescriptions of the Plain Language Act which states it must be understandable to the average reader. Please rewrite the EIS honestly and in a fashion that any intelligence can understand what the TRRR really proposes to do. Thanks for this opportunity to comment. Robert Harris