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Organization:

State: Montana

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

The extraction of coal has too many environmental costs and benefits too few to justify. Please don't build a railroad that will enable the irreparable destruction through strip mining of scenic landscapes used for ranching, hunting, and recreation; degrade the area's air and water quality; enrich a very few whose only concern is with making money at the expense of those whose homes and communities will be changed for the worse; and contribute to the greatest threat our descendants will face, the environmental turmoil created by global climate change. I lived in Ashland for five years and know its intrinsic value. If even the Northern Cheyenne tribe, which is utterly impoverished, can't see financial benefit to this plan, we know that the railroad and the strip mine were never intended to benefit anyone but the greedy and powerful few.