

**OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
STATE OF MONTANA**

**Denise Juneau
Superintendent**



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May 29, 2015

Ken Blodgett
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20423

RE: Docket No. 30186 Request for Extension of Public Comment Period

Dear Mr. Blodgett:

I write to request a 120 day extension to the public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Tongue River Railroad. The document is extensive, with complicated data and analysis. Residents of four eastern Montana counties, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, and many others are directly and indirectly impacted by the proposed railroad and need additional time to review and provide thoughtful comment on the draft EIS to the Surface Transportation Board (STB).

This process and ultimate outcome will benefit from meaningful public participation. As a member of the Montana State Board of Land Commissioners, I urge the STB to approve a 120 day extension to the public comment period for this critical document. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Juneau".

Denise Juneau
Superintendent of Public Instruction

cc: Hon. Deb Miller, Acting Chair, STB