

Submitted to: Ken Blodgett
DOT Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D. C. 20423-0001

Pg. 1 of 2 Comments & Questions Submitted by **Land Owner:** **Barbara E. Stein**
Phone: (406) 784 - 2298
PO Box #108
Ashland, MT 59003

According to the map that I received from the HDR Engineering firm, the proposed Tongue River Railroad (TRR) will lay track(s) right through the middle of my property.

Q: What will the value of my property be decreased to if that happens?

I am a widow nearly ready to retire. My twenty (20) acres with an appurtenant easement, home and four-stall garage with two storage rooms are lien-free. I own the mineral and water rights on my property. My property, home, four-stall garage with two storage rooms and fence line were not damaged by the Ash Creek Fire of 2012. The telephone line, electrical line, well, septic tank and drain field on my property are all in excellent working condition. I have a beautiful view of the Tongue River from my property. None of my property is in the flood plane. Even though my property is in a country setting, my place of employment is only five (5) minutes driving time from my home. I love where I live and have lived on my property in this location for about twenty (20) years or so. I do not want to leave the Ashland area.

Q: Where will TRR relocate me to that I would be afforded ALL the afore-mentioned with no liens on any of it?

Q: Will TRR pay for ALL the above and for my re-location that I might be able to continue to live in the peace and quality of life that I now enjoy so much?

Q: If the TRR cuts across my appurtenant easement, what will the TRR do to re-establish my access to the East Tongue River Road?

There are many ranchers and farmers who live and make their living along the Tongue River between Ashland and Miles City. When I consider the proposed route that the TRR plans to take, I can see that many ranchers and farmers are going to have their properties crossed. If the TRR crosses their land at the proposed sites, it's going to divide their land and leave part of their land west of the rails with no way to be accessed by vehicles or horseback and part of their land east of the rails with no river (water) access for their animals or irrigation projects.

Q: What will TRR do to remedy these situations so that the ranchers' and farmers' land is not rendered useless and worthless?

Attention: Environmental Filing, Docket No. FD 30186

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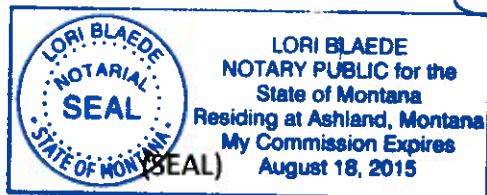
According to statistics, during the construction process of the TRR, building of the proposed coal mine and the operation of the coal mine, Ashland area's crime and vehicle accident rates will increase drastically.

Q: What compensation will be provided by TRR to cover the increased cost of policing this area, providing increased ambulatory services, housing prisoners and increasing the size of the existing health facility and its services?

Barbara E. Stein

STATE OF Montana
COUNTY OF Rosebud

In Ashland, on the 21st day of November, 2012, before me, a Notary Public in and for the above state and county, personally appeared Barbara E. Stein, known to me or proved to be the person named in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and being first duly sworn, such person acknowledged that she executed said instrument for the purposes therein contained as her free and voluntary act and deed.



Lori Blaeke
NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: August 18, 2015