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Organization:

State: Montana

Agency: Surface Transportation Board

Initiative: Tongue River Railroad

Submission Text

I wish to register my strong opposition to the Tongue River Railroad and to any corresponding mining of coal in the Otter Creek field for the following reasons: 1. Coal is DIRTY not matter how industry tries to package it. The June 14 60 minutes feature on Duke Energy in the Carolinas reveals just how badly coal dust and industrial pollution can RUIN a state. Montana should take note and so should the Surface Transportation Board. This project must be stopped. 2. Shipping coal to China is like Custer putting out a call for more Indians. They will burn OUR coal in their aging and unregulated plants and then send the pollution over to us and speed up global warming. Then they will use the electricity generated to hack our government's computers. Does any of that make sense? 3. Shipping coal on trains in rancher's backyards should not be tolerated for any reason. Agriculture is Montana's largest industry--let's not destroy it just so that some out of state business can make a quick profit on Montana coal. Do not trample the rights of generations of Montana ranchers who respect the value of clean air and water. Please, do NOT issue any permit to create the Tongue River rail route.