

From: [Mike Christensen](#)
To: [Uinta Basin Rail Environment](#)
Subject: Comments for Uinta Basin Railway EIS
Date: Monday, July 22, 2019 6:42:28 PM
Attachments: [20190722 Uinta Basin Railway Proposal.pdf](#)

EI-26700

Please enter the attached press release into the record as comment for the Uinta Basin Railway EIS.

Also, having previously worked in environmental planning, I know how difficult it is to handle public comment. So, ICF and the STB have my sympathies. :)

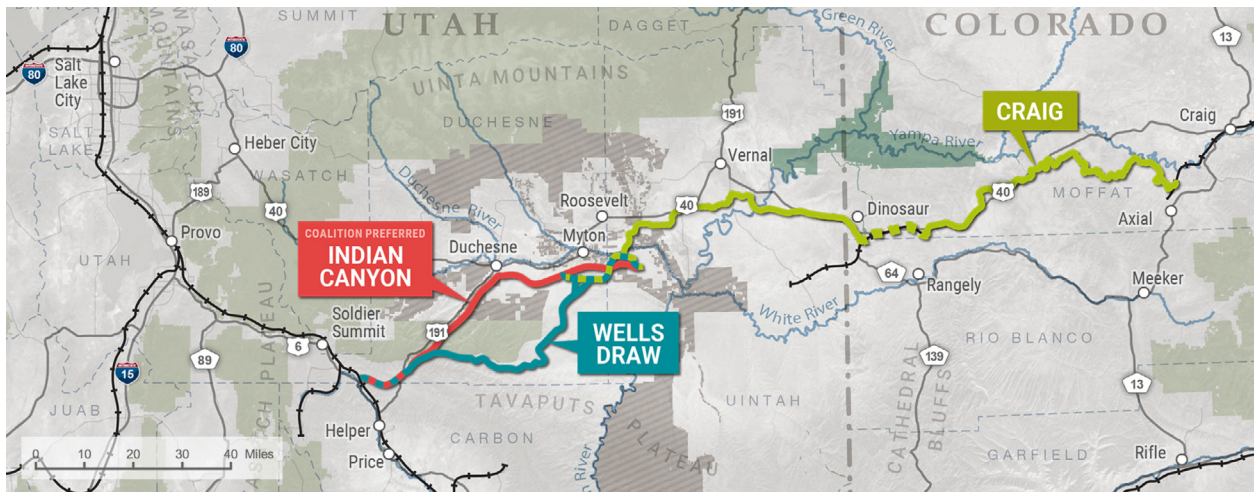
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UTAH RAIL PASSENGERS ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—July 22, 2019

Uinta Basin Railway Proposal Rejected by Utah Rail Passengers Association

Salt Lake City—The Utah Rail Passengers Association **CANNOT** support the Uinta Basin Railway **AS PRESENTLY PROPOSED**. It is evident that the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition has myopically focused a billion-dollar rail proposal to serve a single industry. The failure of the oil industry to remain viable would leave Utah taxpayers paying for a rail line that might not be easily adapted to other uses. The map below shows a summary of the proposal.



The shortsightedness of the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition overlooks an opportunity to plan a rail proposal that would expand economic opportunities for a far broader base of businesses in the Uinta Basin and also introduce the possibility of passenger rail that would serve the residents of Duchesne, Roosevelt, and Vernal. The Seven County Infrastructure Coalition should take this proposal back to the drawing board and formulate a plan that more broadly serves the needs of people living in the Uinta Basin.

To submit comments for the scoping stage of the Environmental Impact Statement for the Uinta Basin Railway, visit <http://www.uintabasinrailwayeis.com/> prior to the deadline of August 5, 2019.

About the Utah Rail Passengers Association

The Utah Rail Passengers Association works to promote the broader diversity of transportation options for residents of and visitors to Utah by educating citizens and policy makers about available transportation options. LinkUtah is a transportation initiative introduced by the Utah Rail Passengers Association that would bring state-sponsored Amtrak service to Utah connecting Salt Lake City and the Wasatch Front north to Logan, southeast to Grand Junction, and southwest to Cedar City with intermediate stations. Motor coach service would connect Cedar City to Saint George and Green River to Moab. Frequency is envisioned to be three round trips per day on each segment.

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