

**Six Counties Rail Project****Floyd, Kathryn K.** to: VICKI RUTSON (rutsonv@stb.dot.gov)...

12/04/2014 07:17 AM

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Good morning,

Please see the attached letter. The Six County Coalition will not be moving forward with the rail project at this time.

On behalf of the Coalition, we would like to thank OEA, OGC and others at the agency for their guidance and support as the Coalition pursued this opportunity.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best, Kathryn

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UINTAH COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

152 East 100 North
Vernal, Utah 84078



DUCHESNE COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

P.O. Box 270
Duchesne, Utah 84021



December 1, 2014

Carlos Braceras, Executive Director
Utah Department of Transportation
4501 South 2700 West
PO Box 141245
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-1245

Dear Mr. Braceras:

In 2013, the Utah Legislature funded an economic study to determine the full extent of transportation constraints in the Uintah Basin. From the study, it was determined that unless something is done with regards to transportation issues, production will be constrained costing the State, SITLA, and the Uintah Basin billions of dollars.

With this in mind, a Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT) in-depth study for a potential railroad was initiated. Over 25 proposed routes were considered and narrowed down to two possible locations with a number of alternatives within each. After an extensive study, it has been determined that the cost of the railroad would be approximately \$5.7 billion dollars.

It appears that the return on investment is insufficient to justify the expense of a railroad project. However, the takeout capacity issue still remains. The study conducted concluded that over \$29 billion dollars of revenue, over the next 30 years, would be lost if this issue is not resolved.

Consequently, we strongly request that UDOT concentrate its efforts on constructing a 4-lane highway from Vernal to Heber on US Highway 40. In addition, we propose that Hwy 191, between Duchesne and Helper, and Hwy 88, between US Highway 40 and Ouray, be widened along with appropriate passing lanes.

Thank you,

UINTAH COUNTY COMMISSION



Michael J. McKee, Chairman



Mark D. Raymond

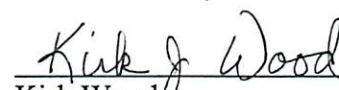


Darlene R. Burns

DUCHESNE COUNTY COMMISSION



Ron Winterton, Chairman



Kirk Wood



Kent Peatross

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Representative Jerry Anderson
Representative Mel Brown
Representative-elect Brad King