

EI-30145

I'd like to comment on some of the complaints I've heard against the railroad because it will negatively affect the environment. One rancher was afraid that the rattling noise of the train would prevent their cows from eating properly. There are trains all over our great country with cows and other livestock grazing next to the tracks and it has NO effect on their eating. When cows are hungry they eat. One land owner complained that the noise of a passing train would disrupt their ""church worship"" as they ride their 4-wheelers in the mountains to worship God. But I don't see any difference in the noise of a train and the noise of 4-wheelers. They can turn off the 4-wheeler engine for quiet, and wait for a minute or 2 for the train to pass... One complained it would destroy the scenery of Indian Canyon. That is an opinion that certainly differs from one person to the next. If you look at that train as a source of income and stability to all the families in our area, it becomes a VERY BEAUTIFUL SIGHT!!! I personally, love to see a train! My grandkids love to count the cars and talk about the great benefit to our country that is being hauled in that precious cargo. One person complained that the train would kill so many more deer and elk. If you think that one through, yes, the train might hit wildlife on the tracks occasionally, but if you compare the chance of hitting animals with one train compared to say 50 or 100 trucks which would be hauling the loads separately, there would be a much greater chance with the many trucks than one train. Another comment was that the people with property closest to the proposed rail routes would be the most impacted and should be considered first and most importantly in the decision. But when you think of ALL the people in all the counties which will benefit from the increased jobs, revenue, taxes, companies being able to stay here and not close down, families who can work and stay here where they want to live, businesses which will open back up again with the increased activity in the oil field and even an increase in businesses here... THERE IS NO COMPARISON!! One article in the Vernal Express showed great concern for the 20+ businesses which have or will be closing down by the end of 2019, and how we need to shop local, buy local, eat local, support local. The best way ever to Support Local would be to support this train which will connect us to the national network of trains so we can export our oil and gas to other refineries than just the one in Salt Lake City. When they are full, they shut us down. I do understand the concerns of the landowners who will be affected, but they are the extreme minority. And I'm sure they will be well compensated for the land crossed by the train. The most important consideration needs to be what's the best for the most people! Every business benefits from a busy oil field not just oil field related businesses: every gas station, hotel, restaurant, grocery store, clothing store, parts store, sporting goods store, every contractor & home builder, lumber store, glass store, every repairman, every school child, every family, even every government worker will benefit from a busy oil field. The Oil and Gas ARE our Economy! It's called the trickle-down effect as the increased revenue is spent and spreads through out the town. That brings me to another point- A newspaper headline said "Counties grapple with declining mineral lease payments". The current huge decrease in oil money they have received in the past -would come back!!! Wouldn't that be great!!!

Trains travel all across the United States of America and other countries... and the world continues to turn and the trains continue to benefit people! Yes, there may be some environmental impact... but the Benefits far outweigh any problems! It's past time for us to all

unite to support our community, the families that live here, and the Economy that keeps us all doing well.

Thank you,

Karen Howcroft