

Date submitted (UTC): 1/6/2016 12:00:00 AM

First name: Wendell

Last name: Koontz

Organization: Town of Hotchkiss

Title:

Official Representative/Member Indicator:

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Address2: PO Box 369

City: Hotchkiss

State: CO

Province/Region:

Zip/Postal Code: 81419

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Email:

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Comments:

Subject: Supplemental EIS Comments for the North Fork Coal Mining Area Exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule

Dear Mr. Jiron,

Again, the Town of Hotchkiss is grateful for the opportunity to comment on the North Fork Coal Mining Area Exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule. The Town and its citizens utilize, protect, and work on public lands that surround our homes. Many of our citizens and their families work at the local mines and we understand the value and stability they bring to our community. We ask that the original Colorado Roadless Rule (CRR) be reinstated as identified in Alternative B of the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (November 2015).

The original CRR was a collaborative effort between multiple industries, environmental groups, and communities just like Hotchkiss. These groups, including a comment letter from Hotchkiss, came together to work towards shared goals of conservation and economic viability of rural Colorado. Concessions were made on all sides to reach a common goal. The court's decision derailed that compromise. The Town of Hotchkiss supports reinstatement of the of CRR that demonstrated the widest inclusion of stakeholders in developing the CRR.

Please feel free to contact me or the Town if we can provide additional support to reinstate North Fork Coal Mining Area Exception of the Colorado Roadless Rule.

Sincerely,

Wendell A. Koontz, Mayor

Town of Hotchkiss