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Comments:

I am a medical doctor and a specialist in public health. I view climate change as the greatest existential threat that mankind has ever faced. By allowing Arch Coal to destroy thousands of acres of public lands for the mining of 170, million tons of coal, the US Forest Service would be contributing to the collapse of civilization. Up to 486 million tons of carbon pollution would be lofted into the atmosphere, exacerbating global warming. This is completely out of step with the Paris pledge of decreasing US greenhouse gas emissions by 26-28% of 2005 levels in 10 years.

Biodiversity and precious public lands should be protected by the USFS. We call upon you to stop this exception to the Colorado Roadless Rule, on behalf of wildlife and in the name of human life.

Janice L. Kirsch, M.D., M.P.H.