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Comments:

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

We the undersigned write to urge you to withdraw your proposal to open areas protected under the Colorado Roadless Rule to new coal mining.

The numbers associated with this proposal are devastating:

- Over 19,000 acres of pristine forest opened to new mining
- Allowing Arch Coal to access to 170 million tons of coal that, when burnt, send 486 million tons of carbon pollution into our atmosphere
- According to your own analysis, this carbon pollution would result in \$13 billion in environmental and economic damages

This proposal flies in the face of the administration's aim of reducing carbon emissions by 26%. After the Paris conference, leadership is needed to end new fossil fuel leases. China has announced a 3 year ban on new coal leases. The administration should begin to take steps to end fossil fuel leasing entirely: leaving the Colorado Roadless Rule intact would be an important first step.

The North Fork Valley is home to some Colorado's most beautiful landscapes. Please keep Colorado's forests untouched for future generations and keep Colorado's coal where it belongs: in the ground. Please reject this dangerous loophole and keep Colorado's Roadless rule intact.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clean Energy Action

Puneet Pasrich

Mike Diel

Laurent Meillon

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Elena Venner

Jerry Newsom

Micah Parkin

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