



# EagleVail Metropolitan District

---

August 20, 2025

Re: Transmission Line project

**Subject: Comment on Environmental Assessment – EagleVail to Gilman Transmission Line Project**

Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing on behalf of the EagleVail Metropolitan District's Board of Directors to express opposition to the proposed overhead high-power transmission line segment between EagleVail and Minturn's town limits at Dowd Junction, as outlined in the Environmental Assessment currently open for public comment.

While we recognize that the Minturn Town Council voted to support Alternative 4, which calls for undergrounding the line through most of Minturn, the remaining above-ground portion near Homestake Peak School is of serious concern. Though technically outside EagleVail's boundaries, this location directly impacts our community.

The primary concern is wildfire response. This area is a critical staging site for first responders, and the presence of an overhead transmission line could limit access and hinder emergency operations when every second matters. Additionally, the proximity of high-power lines to Homestake Peak School raises significant questions about potential noise and long-term health impacts for students and staff.

While undergrounding the line may increase costs, the safety, health, and resilience benefits clearly outweigh the expense. For these reasons, the EVMD cannot support the project as proposed unless all segments, including the stretch between EagleVail and Minturn, are placed underground.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and we urge the Forest Service to prioritize community safety and well-being in your decision.

Sincerely,



Hank Barber  
EagleVail Metro District