

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/9/2020 3:21:43 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have been involved in the community meetings and discussions about this proposed power line since the beginning in 2016.

I am opposed to any overhead transmission lines for ALL of the reasons that are listed in the NOPA (LISTED BELOW), as well as the dramatic impact that the construction of this line would have on the wildlife and ecosystem and the economy in the event of a massive wildfire. I have owned my home in Minturn for 21 years and have seen a significant decline in the Elk and Coyote populations in that time. I have also seen an increase in the health of the Eagle River during this time relative to the Gilman mine spill in the 90's. It is my belief that the construction of this proposed transmission line will permanently alter the ecosystem in a negative way and the permanent existence of this transmission line will cause irreparable harm to the views, property values and public safety (Due to increased Wildfire risk). The Town of Minturn's Water Supply and Water Treatment Plant will not survive in the event of a major wildfire in the area of the proposed transmission line and spread into the Holy Cross/Cross Creek Drainage. This would render the Town of Minturn with NO source of potable water due to the fact that the Town of Minturn does not have a secondary source of water at this time.

Effects and Issues to Consider listed in the NOPA document that I have revised to express my concerns:

Issue #1: The project may diminish the visual quality of the Minturn area, including Dowd Junction/Minturn Gateway, Mountain Meadow, local trails, Top of the Rockies Scenic Byway, and the town of Minturn itself. (Also views from the top of Vail Mountain from winter, skiing visitors and summer, hiking/biking visitors)

Issue #2: The project may increase the risk of wildfire in the areas it is proposed to cross. Alternatively, the powerline may be placed in locations where it is susceptible to wildfire from potential ignition sources, such as the Minturn Shooting Range.

Issue #3: The project may change the occurrence of electromagnetic fields and negatively effect health of residents and wildlife.

Issue #4: The project may negatively impact developed and dispersed recreation uses.