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Organization:

Title:

Comments: *In the planning for 5 years?

*No impact on White River Nat'l Forest?

*Refusal to hold public meetings?

*No publication in local newspaper (publication in Glenwood Springs paper in Pitkin County and not the county this Power line is being placed is NOT valid!)?

*Climate change can be disregarded because the vegetation of Aspen trees mitigates and makes climate change not quantifiable?

There are too many bullet points to include, but the gist is undeniable. The USFS states the mission: "Natural Resources and Environment ensures the health of the land through sustainable management. Its agency works to prevent damage to natural resources and the environment, restore the resource base, and promote good land management." This statement reads that USFS has community at interest, not the big utility companies. USFS professes to be a steward of the land. In this particular case, the entity is doing anything but!

Consider the wildfires in California. . . To ignore the devastating consequences of these fires and the admitted guilt (by the new CEO which was later pulled) on the part of the utility companies involved is mind-boggling. Maybe Holy Cross is counting on bankruptcy (as PE and G) to ultimately salvage any bad decisions made today when the inevitable wildfires, land devastation, home destruction and deaths occur. PG and E, which was determined to have caused the Camp Fire by electrical transmissions lines above ground which burned more than 150,000 acres and killed 85 people, managed to skirt liability with a bankruptcy filing. Today, PG and E faces 31 counts of involuntary manslaughter after a pine tree fell on a power line and ignited the Zogg fire of September 2020. Is this really the legacy Holy Cross wants to embrace?

At the very least, citizens in our community deserve good information about what basis the decisions are being made before USFS approves this power line from Avon to Gilman. Please share with us the reasoning on what seems to be an incredibly short-sighted decision to have the line anywhere but underground. If there is insight supporting USFS approval of the line as is, share it. We deserve to be informed.