

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/2/2021 7:20:58 PM

First name: Carole

Last name: Maddux

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Scott Fitzwilliams,

Forest Supervisor White River National Forest

Re: Holy Cross Energy Avon-to-Gilman 115-kV Transmission Line project Dear Mr. Fitzwilliams,

I am a 40 plus year residents, property owner and business owner in the upper Eagle Valley. We frequently recreate in the Minturn area and are very concerned about the proposed Holy Cross Electric transmission line.

The US Forest Service's mission statement reads,

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations

In the past decade or so, we have seen increasing severe drought in the West, as well as more severe storms nationwide..The potential risk of fire from above ground transmission lines is high, as we have so tragically seen in California. Entire communities in California have been decimated by wildfires started by power lines. Clearly these potentials risks could be mitigated by burying entire 9 miles of transmission.

Re: Holy Cross Energy Avon-to-Gilman 115-kV Transmission Line project Dear Mr. Fitzwilliams,

I am a long term resident and property owner in South Minturn. I am very concerned about the proposed Holy Cross Electric transmission line.

The US Forest Service's mission statement reads,

The mission of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

I understand the increased cost to HCE of burying the lines, but the decision of the USFS can't be based on corporate profits. Overhead transmission lines are a short sighted short cut, with a great potential for future disaster.

On the USFS website, there is an entire page dedicated to Sustainability and Climate. One paragraph reads:

The Forest Service is a steward of many of our Nation's most treasured landscapes, and within those landscapes are resources that people need and want, such as clean air and water, recreational opportunities and forest products. Impacts from climate change, extreme weather, and other disturbances-along with changing human demands-challenge our ability to ensure that ecosystems are healthy, resilient, and more adaptable to changing conditions. The Forest Service is adjusting behaviors and actions by using the best available science and information to ensure our forests and grasslands continue to deliver values, products, and services both now and in the future and it is your responsibility to protect it.