

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/8/2023 8:12:05 PM

First name: Jacob

Last name: Caricato

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project #60192 is a terrible idea. Forests, especially old-growth forests (within the range of 150 years old) are massive allies in the fight against climate change. Old-growth forests have tons of carbon stored within the trees, root systems, and fungal networks. The scale that the Telephone Gap project would remove trees will create carbon emissions equivalent to that of 419,539 cars. In 2021, the number of registered passenger vehicles in Vermont was 221,936. The Telephone Gap project will create detrimental, irreversible effects.

Additionally, the Telephone Gap project is simply unAmerican. The Telephone Gap project literally violates President Biden's 2022 Executive Order: old growth forests are to be protected in the United States. This project is marked within the top ten WORST projects currently in the United States. By proceeding with this project, you are sending a message to our nation and the rest of the world that it is ok to destroy old-growth forests, regardless of the EVIDENCE that should dissuade you. You are referring to OUTDATED research and data to support this huge backward step of a project.

There are upwards of 600 comments regarding this project, and only roughly 35 are in favor. To continue this project represents a lack of democracy; the people are speaking and you are not listening. Consider your children, your nieces and nephews, and perhaps one day, your grandchildren. Consider what type of life you want to live you want to live. Consider what you want for your family 10, 20, 30, or 40 years from now. Is it one without the natural beauty of the world? At this rate, it will be. Is it one where children cannot go outside to play because air pollution will kill them? At this rate, it will be. If you care about our nation, our Earth, and future generations to come, you will not proceed with this project.