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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) plan for this project should address the following potential impacts:

-Water quality concerns resulting from acid mine drainage and overburden runoff- various inorganic elements including iron, aluminum, selenium, sulfate and others common to coal mine runoff; impacts to nearby streams and the Poteau River should be addressed

-Climate impact of methane emitted from the coal mine as well as the additional carbon dioxide emissions resulting from the mining and transport of the coal; the NEPA plan should specifically address the guidance contained in the USFS document entitled "Forest Service Strategic Framework For Responding to Climate Change."

-the construction and maintenance of a power line easement on the area ecology and infrastructure (including Arkansas Highway 28 and the nearby rail line) and the use of herbicides and other management techniques; the potential impacts to the ecology and recreational use of the Cherokee Wildlife Management Area should also be addressed.

-local road impacts including noise and damage- coal hauling trucks will potentially result in increased noise and damage to area roads; residents and fauna along the roadways may be impacted.

-other air impacts-the impact of increased truck travel through the area will result in potentially increased emissions of diesel particulates and dust, potentially impacting residents and flora and fauna along the roadways.