Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/12/2024 2:32:17 PM First name: Thomas Last name: Thorson Organization: Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

People with the most expertise available on this project have significantly weighed in on the ecological, botanical, sustainable, esthetic, and economic menace of this project. While I appreciate the semblance of a scaling back of the originally proposed project it feels like an end run around to keep the door open to the personal interest pressuring for this project. It is known historically that where spruce forests grow is damp and hasn't been disturbed by naturally caused fire, that spruce forests harbor a nearly uncountable host of rare and precious other plants, that they are the keystone to the biome, that once spruce trees are gone the land dries and becomes more susceptible to fire since spruce trees foster spring action, that the spirit of people who live here and choose to live here is sustained by the beauty of spruce forests and all they harbor. Please, please, be brave.

Thank you