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First name: Debra

Last name: Davis

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

We are facing a high wildfire risk throughout Eagle County. Our long-time homeowners insurance provider-after over 40 years-recently dropped our coverage due to this increasing danger. We live in Minturn, nearly across the river from the location where you propose to transition the power line above ground.

Our insurer now classifies this area as a "Red Zone," indicating a high probability of wildfire, and will no longer insure homes here. Given this reality, and the growing threat of climate change-along with the well-documented role of power lines in triggering devastating wildfires-it seems irresponsible to install above-ground lines when undergrounding them is an option.

I understand that burying lines is more expensive. At a town meeting last year, a representative from HCE mentioned that "HCE has shareholders to answer to." Frankly, I found that comment deeply troubling. Shareholder interests should never come before the safety and well-being of the people living in Minturn and Eagle-Vail.