

SANDRA GOSS: Hello. I'm Sandra Goss. I'm with Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning. I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment on this PEIS, and I want to offer a constructive suggestion. Please alert the public in your notices that backpacks will not be allowed. I had to park my backpack somewhere else at great inconvenience. Now, to my comments. Leased mineral rights on public land should benefit the public. There is a variety of talk about the benefits, financial and otherwise, to communities where coal leasing is allowed on public lands. There is a lot of talk about the cost in public health and deterioration of our natural resources quality. You all have your work cut out for you. And I am here to encourage you to take a transparent and understandable look and provide us a good analysis of exactly what the situation is in terms of costs to communities, both in jobs, benefits, taxes, royalties, et cetera, costs to our country in terms of national and resource security, which this does have a role in, and I ask that you also keep a very sharp eye out for protecting the taxpayer in terms of self-bonded coal companies. This seems to be a very dangerous area with little recourse for the taxpayer to have recompense or reclamation on damaged lands. Thank you.