

MR. GROBE: Yeah, my name is Chuck Grobe, Moffat County Commissioner. And I want to echo the comments of thank you for having the comment period here on the West Slope in Grand Junction so so many more people can come and take part. In Moffat County, it's, it's critical. We're an energy-reliant County like so many on the West Slope. And it really affects our economy a lot because the top three taxpayers in Moffat County are coal reliant with the power plant. So --and it makes up probably about 30 percent of our tax base. So, with that, it's, it's critical to us. So, I want to bring -- talk about a couple of other aspects, too, that really haven't been discussed too much. Is, number 1, the reclamation efforts made during the mining of the coal improved land quality immensely. We have at Trapper Mine, through the reclamation, we have a lot more animal species in the, in the community, a lot better habitat for them. It's also happening at Colowyo and [indiscernible]. And it's also with Colowyo. The same thing with the reclamation efforts. One rancher has said that his family has had the least -- at Trapper Mine since the '20s and since the reclamation, they're getting three times the output of hay and wheat and, and being able to put more animals on that property. Also, if you come to Moffat County, you see the blue skies. You see the, the -- you don't see the, the plumes and the, and the -- that you see in, in Denver and the Front Range. We take pride in our -- and the people that work at the coal mines and the power plant take pride in, in taking care of the environment and working to, to do the very best they can. The power plants in the Yampa Valley are the cleanest power plants in the United States. And we need to recognize that, that they've been proactive in all their rules and regulations that have come down to be as clean as they can to keep the pollutants down. It's not like, you know, we mine -- we produce power and we like to live in this -- be like Pig Pen on Charlie Brown. No, we want to have a clean environment, too, for our kids to grow up in. And another aspect of all the, the work with the power plants and the, and the mines is the volunteer effort that, that comes into the community from them. They've done a lot of work to build ball fields, soccer fields, golf courses, support programs that are going on in the, in the community, too. That is critical, that people don't realize what the, the high-paying jobs and the extra income coming into the, into the community. So, with that, I

just want to thank you again for being here and listen to all the people that are here. So, thank you.