

MR. BRADY: Keith Brady, Emery County commissioner. I also own a tourism-based business. I want to thank you for your time to come to Utah, but, again, like other people are saying, we wish you would have come to our counties so you could see what effect the mines and the power plants have, which is negligible. We have wonderful blue skies and our environment is actually awesome, as has already been stated. I want to echo the support of the comments of our congressional representatives and Dr. Nelson from the State. And while I do not object to the programmatic EIS, I do object to the three-year moratorium on new coal leases on federal land. Sure, there's a precedent set by Nixon, but is it really helpful and is it really necessary? The administration's clean power plan, aimed squarely at shutting down coal generation, would reduce global CO2 emissions by less than 1 percent by their own numbers. This moratorium is, therefore, largely a symbolic gesture. The idea is that you're going to not allow new production in order to find out if the valuation is right, if it's competitive, and if the effects to the environment -- if there's effects to the environment. A lot of people have said, you know, look at it as a business model. No business would shut down their production just to see if their valuation -- or if they're being competitive. It doesn't make sense. And so I won't go into that, my next paragraph there, but a key rationale seems for the moratorium -- however, seems to address climate change, which used to be global warming, but since that didn't work out, the moniker has changed. And while I'm not a climate change denier, in truth the climate does change season by season, year by year. And to say that science has settled makes a mockery of science. Science should always be subject to scrutiny. To say that humans can have control over the climate is incredulous as thinking that a man can stretch forth his puny arm to stop the Colorado River. The optimal CO2 levels for plant growth is three times higher than it is right now. So the idea that CO2 would change our climate, it blows my mind. Our plants can't handle it. They excrete oxygen that we breathe. I truly believe that we should be good stewards over God's creation. Coal-producing companies do more for the environment and their surrounding communities than environmentalist groups have done with their time and money. I am not against alternative forms of electrical generation, but no matter how much we wish for it, America is nowhere near ready to convert strictly to renewables. Renewables are just not as efficient as fossil fuels at generating these base loads and general

electricity. So I would encourage the Department of the Interior to lift the moratorium on new coal leases. And those who are doing the study for the EIS, I encourage them to come to our counties and study our air, our water, our communities, our health, and come visit our mines and our power plants. Thank you.