

1 DR. BODDIE: Thank you very much for
2 holding this listening session. My name is Dr. Nathan
3 Boddie. I am representing the City of Bend, Oregon. I'm
4 a city councilor from Bend.

5 In Bend we're already seeing the effects of climate
6 change, wildfires that threaten our region are more
7 dangerous and frequent with each passing year. Our
8 snowpack, which starts by breaking water is reporting
9 all-time lows, and temperatures continue to soar.

10 The review of federal coal and its contributions to
11 climate change comes at a pivotal moment and the
12 Department of the Interior must ensure that the
13 environmental consequences of carbon are accurately
14 reflected in the cost of coal.

15 Bend sees over 2 million visitors each year who come
16 to ski, paddle, ride and climb in the Cascade Mountain
17 Range. These tourists support thousands of jobs in the
18 recreation, hospitality, food, and other financial
19 sectors. Outdoor recreation is a key driver for our
20 local economy, but our tourism industry hangs in a
21 precarious position as a result of extreme weather
22 conditions, snowpack loss caused by climate change.

23 When the natural environment is threatened by
24 climate change, the entire economy of this region
25 suffers. The financial burden shouldered by local

1 communities and adapting to and mitigating climate change
2 is high. The City of Bends' recent effort to adopt a
3 climate action ordinance is just one example of the
4 costly commitments needed to preserve the future
5 environmental and economic prosperity of our community.

6 The Federal Coal Program doesn't account for its
7 contributions to climate change and the resulting impacts
8 facing communities everywhere. It's time to factor in
9 the environmental and economic burden of a warmer climate
10 when considering the future of the program.

11 We need to internalize these costs while easing the
12 transition to more sustainable economies throughout the
13 country, but especially in coal country. By adequately
14 considering the scope of impact, we can more
15 appropriately factor in coal's associated costs.

16 I support the Interior's Departments efforts to
17 reform the Federal Coal Program and urge them to account
18 for coal's contribution to climate change. The coal
19 industry's declining across the country and it's time to
20 invest in new revenue streams that foster healthy
21 communities and economies and the environment across the
22 West. Thank you very much.

23 MR. CORNELISON: Hello. My name is
24 Peter Cornelison. I am a city council member from the
25 City of Hood River, Oregon. We are just seven miles west