

**Byers & Anderson Court Reporters/Video/Videoconferencing
Seattle/Tacoma, Washington**

1 Oregon, whether it's an oil train or a coal train, these
2 have incredible public safety aspects. But we also have
3 public safety issues when it gets -- when first
4 responders need to respond either to that train or to
5 something on the other side of the tracks.

6 In my town of Edmonds, Washington we have a senior
7 center on the other side of the tracks and there are
8 times where trains have been stopped and emergency
9 medical personnel can't get to the other side.

10 These are kind of small things throughout the basin,
11 throughout this region that I think the EIS really has to
12 dive down and take a good look at.

13 Again, I appreciate your time here and again, thanks
14 to everybody for showing up.

15 MS. BROWN: Thank you. I'm Elizabeth
16 Brown and I am from Gillette, Wyoming. Nobody paid me to
17 be here.

18 AUDIENCE MEMBER: We can't hear you.

19 MS. BROWN: I am from Gillette,
20 Wyoming. I am coal miner --

21 AUDIENCE MEMBER: Get closer to the
22 mic.

23 MS. BROWN: Nobody paid me for being
24 here.

25 I'll get closer.

1 All right. I'll just go right into it.

2 The federal coal leasing program operates within the
3 context of a free-market economy and therefore, the scope
4 of the PEIS must also be designed in that context. For
5 supporting evidence, please review the PRB applications
6 from 2007 to June 2011 and the BLM WYW180384 nominated
7 shortly thereafter. That's market at work.

8 As our economy here in the United States struggled,
9 now the economy is picking up and natural gas prices
10 which had been briefly and unsustainably low are rising.
11 The PEIS should not impose hurdles on electric utilities'
12 fuel options.

13 Please talk with the operators of North Dakota's
14 rural electric plants on the adverse impact of the
15 moratorium on coal leasing imposed in January. The pause
16 is on the wrong side of the economic cycle. You can lift
17 it because it's really not necessary to the scope of the
18 PEIS.

19 In the Powder River, the coal fields, BLM averages
20 five and a half years to process applications, not
21 including the exploration that precedes it or the mine
22 plan approvals that follow it. The PEIS must seek out
23 duplicated efforts and potentially budget-protecting make
24 work. The inordinate time the BLM takes to process an
25 application to final sale has to be addressed. Please

1 consider YW -- WYW172684 as a case study.

2 There are over a billion people on this planet who
3 would sacrifice a lot for a small bit of the energy
4 equity and the energy security that we take for granted
5 here in the U.S. And coal is a very common rock. It's
6 found everywhere and it's going to be mined.

7 U.S. coal, the federal coal, is at least accountable
8 to the U.S. people, to Americans. We do operate under
9 economic and environmental regulations.

10 I'm very proud to work for Cloud Peak Energy at the
11 Cordero Rojo and Antelope coal mines. And people come
12 from all over the world to see these mines. We've just
13 wrapped up over 2 million man and woman hours without a
14 single medical treatment case at our mines, and they come
15 to see how this can be done.

16 They come to visit our successful reclamation, and
17 you know, we just -- we can lead the world. We can be
18 the leaders of the world, and we're all in this together.
19 Thank you.

20 MR. BATTIS: Thank you. If we could
21 have Group 21 through 25 come down and see Amy at
22 Microphone No. 1, we'll get you situated.

23 We're going to move over to Microphone 2.

24 MS. LYONS: My name is -- Hello. My
25 name is Mary Lyons. I am president of Landowners &