

COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES & INSURANCE

MONICA J. LINDEEN
COMMISSIONER



OFFICE OF THE MONTANA
STATE AUDITOR

May 19, 2015

Ken Blodgett
Attention: Environmental filing, Docket 30186
Surface Transportation Board
395 E. Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423

Re: Request for extension of comment period for FD 30186

Dear Mr. Blodgett,

I am writing to request a 60 day extension to the June 23, 2015 deadline to provide comments to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Tongue River Railroad (TRR).

As a member of the Montana State Board of Land Commissioners, I am closely following the permitting process for the TRR and the associated Otter Creek coal mine as they will both impact Montana owned lands. It is important to me that the public be given ample opportunity to thoroughly review the DEIS and provide comments. Given the sheer size and scope of information in the DEIS I believe a 60 day extension of the comment period is warranted.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please inform me if the extension is granted.

Sincerely,

Monica J. Lindeen
Commissioner,
Office of the Montana State Auditor