



October 14th, 2015

Shaun McGrath
Regional Administrator - Region 8
Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop St
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. McGrath,

We go into the wilderness to get away from it all, get some exercise, explore somewhere new, and get renewal and fresh air. Unfortunately, emissions from the Hunter and Huntington coal-fired power plants in Utah put both the fresh air and Utah's \$12 billion dollar outdoor sports economy at risk. That is why Protect Our Winters and the outdoor sports industry are writing to ask that the Environmental Protection Agency put our families, our health, and our economy first by guaranteeing the same fair and equal protection from coal pollution that it has in other states. Requiring the Hunter and Huntington coal-fired power plants to install modern, achievable pollution controls to reduce dangerous haze-causing emissions is necessary for the health of our national parks, Utah communities and families, and the local economy.

Utah is celebrated for its iconic national parks and world-class recreational areas. Arches, Canyonlands, Capitol Reef, Bryce, and Zion national parks are an economic engine for the state and integral to its heritage and cultural identity. In 2014, more than 10 million visitors from around the world visited Utah's national parks and added \$730 million dollars to Utah's economy. Utah's tourism industry supports about 132,000 jobs, or about one out of every ten jobs in the state.

Locally, outdoor retailers and brands, recreational companies, and other small businesses depend on these national parks. In places like Moab, families rely on Utah's national parks to put food on the table, to help cover college costs, and to support the way of life that Utahns have long enjoyed.

Second to our national parks and recreation-based economy, Utah is, unfortunately, also known for its poor air quality. Clean air and clear skies matter when visitors, businesses, and residents make choices about which state to visit or do business in. The Hunter and Huntington coal-fired power plants are responsible for 40% of our state's dangerous haze-causing nitrogen oxide pollution from the electricity sector.

According to the Clean Air Task Force, pollution from the plants directly contributes to 11 premature deaths and 233 asthma attacks every year. Equally concerning is that dangerous emissions from the Hunter and Huntington coal-fired plants create problems for other states in the area, with pollutants from these coal-fired power plants reaching as far north as Grand Teton National Park in Wyoming, as far south as the Grand Canyon, and east to Rocky Mountain National Park. This level of pollution is unacceptable, and the state's current regional haze proposal would allow these plants to continue dumping dangerous levels of pollution into our air — threatening our health, our skies, and majestic wild places across the West.

Utahns and their surrounding neighbors deserve the same protections from coal pollution that other states have. It's time for the Environmental Protection Agency to protect clean air and public lands in Utah by requiring Rocky Mountain Power's Hunter and Huntington coal-fired power plants to reduce dangerous haze-causing pollution by installing modern, achievable pollution controls. By guaranteeing strong and equal protection from coal pollution, EPA can ensure the sanctity of these majestic places and support the ever-important outdoor recreation industry and local businesses that rely on Class 1 areas threatened by coal pollution.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Co-signed,

Athletes

Brody Leven
Caroline Gleich
Forrest Shearer
Julian Carr

Angel Collinson
Jeremy Jones
Callan Chythlook-Sifsof
Hadley Hammer

Media

Ski Magazine
Skiing Magazine
Warren Miller Entertainment

National Park Trips
Climbing Magazine
Backpacker Magazine

Businesses and Organizations

Protect Our Winters
4Frnt
Armada
Atomic
Black Crows
Black Diamond
Blizzard/Tecnica
Coalition Snow

DPS Skis
Dynafit
Folsom Custom Skis
G3 Genuine Guide Gear
Grace Skis
Head
J Skis
K2 Sports

Kästle
Lib Tech
Gnu
Roxy
Liberty Skis
Line
Meier Skis
Nordica
ON3P
Parlor
RAMP Skis
Rocky Mountain Underground
Rossignol
Salomon
Scott
Tom Winter Media
Wagner Skis
Aspen Snowmass
AvaTech
Backbone
Fishpond Inc
Madshus
Outdoor Research
SmartWool
SUUNTO
US Ski Team
Alpine Collective
Black Tie Ski
Discrete
Grand Targhee
Jones Snowboards
Mountain Sports International Events
PowdrCorp
Ski Butlers
Ski Logic
Soul Poles
Telluride Ski Resort

Atlas Snowshoes
Homestead Development Properties
(Utah)
Nathan Flint Digital
Toad and Co
Tubbs Snowshoes
Marker/Völkl
La Sportiva North America
K2 Skis
K2 Snowboards
Snocru
Jans LTD
Snowsports Industries America
Coopers Cabins
Ryan Gellert, POW Board Member
Manage Digital
Park City Bread and Bagel
Chill (Salt Lake City Chapter)
Magic Science
M3 Events and Entertainment
STÖCKLI
Elan
Fischer Skis
Faction Skis
Patrick Shehan Creative
Full Tilt Boots
Yoke Collection
Saga Outerwear
Level 1 Productions
Good Company
Sickbird Airsports LLC
Mobile Rider Networks
Skullcandy
Mountain Safety Research
FastG8 Inc
Tim Akers Digital
Cascade Designs