



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:
Melissa Cano
385-388-9180

Final Scope of Study Released for Uinta Basin Railway

Uinta Basin, Utah (Dec. 17, 2019) – The U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB) released on December 13, 2019, the Final Scope of Study of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Uinta Basin Railway. The Final Scope reflects additions and changes to the Draft Scope as a result of comments received during the scoping comment period. The Final Scope also addresses the principal environmental concerns raised by the comments on the Draft Scope and explains, if and how, these issues will be addressed in the EIS.

The STB, the lead federal agency that is responsible for preparing the environmental impact statement in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), has decided together with the cooperating agencies that three routes—the Whitmore Park alternative, the Indian Canyon alternative, and the Wells Draw alternative—meet the project’s purpose and need and are reasonable and feasible to construct and operate. These three routes, as well as the No-Action alternative, will be evaluated in the Uinta Basin Railway EIS.

“We appreciate the Surface Transportation Board’s and the other cooperating agencies’ diligence working through the public scoping process and determining the final scope of study. Additionally, we look forward to learning more from the Environmental Impact Statement as the STB works toward preparation and issuance of a draft for public comment and review,” said Seven County Infrastructure Coalition Executive Director Mike McKee.

The EIS will analyze potential impacts resulting from the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition’s proposed construction and operation of each alternative. To view the full Final Scope and the resource subject areas that will be evaluated, please visit uintabasinrailwayeis.com.

The Coalition is the public proponent of the proposed railway that seeks to solve the freight transportation challenges in the Uinta Basin by connecting various industries to the national rail network. This common-carrier railway will move goods in a safe and cost-effective way to

enable economic stability, sustainable communities, and enriched quality of life. Learn more about the Uinta Basin Railway project at uintabasinrailway.com.

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Seven County Infrastructure Coalition: The Coalition was formed in 2014 in an effort to promote cooperative regional planning, increase economic opportunities, and implement sustainable infrastructure projects. Member counties include Carbon, Daggett, Duchesne, Emery, San Juan, Sevier, and Uintah. Visit SCIC-utah.org.

