



May 16th, 2016

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

Dear Mr. McGrath,

Among Arizona's many attributes, our state is perhaps most fortunate to claim within its borders the crown jewel of our country's national park system: the Grand Canyon National Park. As Arizonans, our identity is so deeply tied to the Grand Canyon that we call our state the Grand Canyon State. Not only is the Grand Canyon a tremendous source of pride and inspiration for the families and businesses who call Arizona home, it's also a vital part of Arizona's economy.

Unfortunately, this keystone of Arizona's culture and economy is being threatened by dangerous air pollution emanating from two exceptionally dirty coal-fired power plants in nearby Utah. Emissions from Utah's Hunter and Huntington coal fired power plants shroud the views and foul the air at the Grand Canyon and the surrounding region, putting the health of Arizona's communities and critically important outdoor-recreation economy at significant risk.

According to the National Park Service, the 4.3 million people who visited Arizona's famous park in 2011 spent \$467,257,000 and directly supported 7,361 Arizona jobs. Statewide, outdoor recreation is a crucial part of Arizona's economy, generating \$10.6 billion in consumer spending, \$3.3 billion in wages and revenues, and \$787 million in state and local tax revenues.

When visitors come to any of our nation's parks, they expect clean air and clear views, but at the Grand Canyon and other parks and public lands in the vicinity of Utah's Hunter and Huntington coal-fired plants, that's increasingly not the case. That is why we, as members of the Arizona business community, are writing to ask the Environmental Protection Agency to protect Arizona's air and lands from Utah's dangerous coal pollution.

We call upon the EPA's Region 8 office, which is charged with protecting the health and environment of Utah and other western states, to implement strong and fair reductions in coal pollution by requiring modern, industry-standard pollution controls on Utah's Hunter and Huntington coal-fired plants.

As many of our colleagues in the Utah and Colorado outdoor-recreation communities have already done, we are asking for protections for our families and livelihoods. Emissions from these two plants are a regional threat, known to degrade air quality in wilderness areas across the West. In addition to Grand Canyon National Park, the EPA's own monitoring has shown that haze-causing pollution from the Hunter and Huntington plants threaten some of the West's finest public lands, including eight other national parks and wilderness areas in Utah and Colorado.

This level of pollution is unacceptable and must be addressed. Requiring the owner of these two plants, Rocky Mountain Power, to install modern pollution controls will reduce these dangerous, haze-causing emissions and protect the health of Arizona's communities and economy.

Citizens of Arizona, Utah, and Colorado deserve the same protections from coal pollution that many other states enjoy. It's time for the Environmental Protection Agency to protect Western air and lands by guaranteeing strong and fair protection from Utah's coal pollution. In doing so, EPA can ensure the sanctity of the Grand Canyon and other majestic places across the West, and support Arizona's outdoor-recreation industry and the local businesses that rely on its vitality.

Thirteen years before President Woodrow Wilson signed the Grand Canyon National Park Act in 1919, President Theodore Roosevelt said these words:

“Let this great wonder of nature remain as it now is. Do nothing to mar its grandeur, sublimity and loveliness. You cannot improve on it. But what you can do is to keep it for your children, your children's children, and all who come after you, as the one great sight which every American should see.”

We now honor Roosevelt's legacy and vision in calling for these necessary protections for our businesses, communities, and way of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Co-signed,

Protect Our Winters
4 Corner Film Logistics
Annette McGivney, freelance writer
Antigua Archaeology, LLC
Apothicare
Arizona Raft Adventures
Artisan Metal Works LLC
Aspen Sports
Beka Business Media
Black Hawk Oil
Briar Patch Inn
Canyon Outfitters, Inc
Canyon REO
Canyoneers
Chapel Rock Camp
Custom Creations
Dragon Creek Publishing
Educational Expeditions
Flagstaff Brewing Co.
Flagstaff Native Plant and Seed
Four Season Guides
Gregg Payne Art & Design
Horsin' Around Adventures
Kahtoola
Lantern Light Inn

Laura Chamberlin, Professional Chef
Light Body Fitness
Local Juicery
Mary Williams Design
McGaugh's Smoke & Bottle
Moenkopi Riverworks
Mountain Sports Flagstaff
Natural Channel Design, Inc.
Network Search Associates, Inc
Noah Stalvey Allstate Agency
Over The Edge Sports
Pinnacle Auto Service
Prescott College
Puma Press, LLC
Rain Maker Fabrication
Rinzai's Market
Rivers and Oceans
Seasoned Kitchen
Self Propelled Tours Sedona
Serenity Development
Supai Adventure Gear, LLC
Sustainability Education Department,
Prescott College
The Hike Shack
The Wildland Trekking Company
University of Arizona Campus Recreation
Whale Foundation