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U.S. FOREST SERVICE ISSUES RECORD OF DECISION FOR UINTA BASIN RAILWAY PROJECT

Ft. Duchesne, UT August 3, 2022

The United States Forest Service has issued its Record of Decision for the Uinta Basin Railway Project. This action marks a critical and long-awaited milestone in the federal approval process for this project.

The Uinta Basin Railway is designed to connect the Uinta Basin in northeastern Utah to the National Railway Network, providing energy mineral producers in this region with the infrastructure needed to access markets throughout the nation for the first time.

The Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation is a partner and stakeholder in the Uinta Basin Railway Project. From the inception of this project, the Tribe has played an active role in engaging with federal agencies to obtain the required government permits to advance development of this important project. The Tribe's outreach included direct interface with the White House to advance the federal permitting process.

"We are pleased to have played a part in helping the rail project reach this important milestone," said Ute Indian Tribe Business Committee Chairman Shaun Chapoose. "The economic well-being of our membership depends on energy mineral production on our Reservation. Connecting our oil and gas industry partners to new markets is a critical piece to tribal economic development."

About the Ute Indian Tribe -The Ute Indian Tribe resides on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation in northeastern Utah. Three bands of Utes comprise the Ute Indian Tribe: the Whiteriver Band, the Uncompahgre Band and the Uintah Band. The Tribe has a membership of more than three thousand individuals, with over half living on the Uintah and Ouray Reservation. The Ute Indian Tribe operates its own tribal government and oversees approximately 1.3 million acres of trust land which contains significant oil and gas deposits. The Tribal Business Committee is the governing council of the Tribe.