

SOLAR ENERGY INTERNATIONAL

Renewable Energy Education and Sustainable Development



Dear Members of the Roadless Task Force,

I am writing on behalf of Solar Energy International, an educational organization whose mission is to help others use renewable energy and environmental building technologies through education and technical assistance. We offer technical workshops here in Carbondale, CO and around the world that teach people how to design and install different renewable energy technologies, and we also have a few charitable programs like our Solar In the Schools and our International Volunteers programs. Our Colorado based workshops directly reach 100's of people each year, and our work at school, conferences, and festivals adds to that number significantly.

We recognize that there are many different reasons why people are choosing to use renewable energy, but our students mostly come to our workshops so they can make a difference for the health of our environment. In this age when newspaper headlines and endless magazine articles on global warming and fossil fuel implications, when respiratory illness is on the rise, when our species are becoming extinct at an alarming rate that grows exponentially each year, when our clean air and watersheds are being threatened by human development, it is more important than ever to preserve the integrity of our last remaining Roadless Areas.

SEI depends on our Roadless Areas as we host students from all over the world who come to Colorado specifically because of the uncompromised natural beauty here. Our students boost our local economy while adding to our cultural diversity, and they leave Colorado with memories of the experiences they had in our wide-open spaces.

We at Solar Energy International (SEI) would like to see all White River Roadless Areas protected. We ask the task force to recommend that Governor Owens fully protect all of the White River National Forest's Roadless Areas specifically, and all of the statewide Roadless Areas in general.

You have the power to make a decision that will greatly affect our future generations. Please help us work to protect these wild places.

Sincerely,

Soozie Lindbloom
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