



GRAND COUNTY COMMISSION
Jacques Hadler (Chair) · Mary McGann (Vice Chair)
Evan Clapper · Trish Hedin · Josie Kovash
Sarah Stock · Kevin Walker

May 26, 2022

Bryan W. Torgerson
217 E. Center St.
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-7417

Regarding: Residential Lease RDCC Notice

Dear Bryan,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed lease of SITLA land near Castle Valley. We concur with all of the concerns expressed in the letter from The Town of Castle Valley (attached).

We are especially concerned about the possible implications of this proposal for wildfire risk. Wildfires have increased dramatically throughout the western US, and the recent Pack Creek fire showed that our area is also vulnerable to this risk. One of the most standard and important ways to reduce wildfire risk to residences is to not locate new residences in areas that are prone to wildfires and/or are difficult to defend from wildfires. At first glance, the wooded area of the proposed lease is exactly the sort of place in which we do not want to locate new residences.

We request that the lease not be approved until a careful study of fire risk is completed. Wildfires are an important and growing problem in our region. Let's not make that problem worse.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacques Hadler".

Jacques Hadler, Chair
Grand County Commission