



Thomas Gunter <thomasgunter@utah.gov>

Air Quality Comments

1 message

Jerome Soller [REDACTED]
To: thomasgunter@utah.gov
Cc: soller [REDACTED]

Sat, Oct 27, 2018 at 11:24 PM

Dear Thomas and Other Recipients of this message,

I am a resident of Salt Lake City and the President/CEO of a technology company located in Salt Lake City. I have lived in Salt Lake City for 29 years, and my Salt Lake City business has existed for 22 years. From a health perspective, Salt Lake City's atrocious air quality throughout the year, particularly in the Winter, is the greatest public health threat. For these reasons, I am afraid for my elderly parents to visit Salt Lake City, due to its dangerous environmental conditions. I, like many in Salt Lake City, strongly request that the State of Utah take stronger actions, including limiting commercial emissions, not approving new permits for additional emissions by commercial entities, forcing commercial entities to reduce their emissions, reducing car emissions, requiring state employees to telecommute when possible, etc. If the State does not take such concrete, tangible action, we hope that the federal Government steps in and forces those changes, for the sake of our health and the sake of Utah's high tech industry. We also have major concerns about the impact of the potential in-land port, particularly if it is driven by special interests who do not answer to the residents and businesses located in Salt Lake City, on Utah's air quality.

From an industry standpoint, Utah's air quality is the number one threat to Utah's growing tech industry. Utah's terrible air quality hurts the state's image and many high tech employees chose to leave Utah for other parts of the country with healthier environments for their families. I have two employees who telecommute from other states, having previously lived in Salt Lake

City, citing Utah's terrible air quality and the adverse impact on their families' health. Utah's terrible air quality is a cause of lost work days, adverse impact on employee health, and reduced productivity.

Sincerely,

Jerome Soller, PhD

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