

Stop the CIB from Squandering Our Public Funds

Community Impact Board (CIB) funding is essential for our rural communities. These grants are used for medical centers, fire stations, water projects and other critical community infrastructure. When the CIB grants this money to directly subsidize fossil fuel corporations, that money is then no longer available for our communities.

This year (FY 2019), the SCIC has requested \$30,900,000 in grants from the CIB. This is 93.5% of the total granted to all counties and other entities in 2018.

- The CIB has already agreed to fund these requests and will hand out money as project milestones are complete (likely today). In contrast to standard practice, the CIB approved this unusually large sum of money in the form of grants--as opposed to loans--with no requirement for matching funds.

The SCIC is the only entity entirely funded by the CIB.

- This unusual and expensive relationship began in 2014. In FY 2015, the SCIC was granted an initial operating budget of \$5 million. In FY 2019, the CIB agreed to continue funding the administrative, legal, and operational expenses of the SCIC for another 4 years, for an additional \$3 million (\$8 million total).
- Thus far, there is very little to show for this enormous amount of administrative spending. The only project completed by the SCIC since 2014 is the development of broadband infrastructure in Daggett County--a relatively small and simple undertaking.
- **Regional organizations already exist to do the work that the SCIC is receiving funding to do.** The member counties of the SCIC also participate in the Southeastern Utah Association of Governments, the Uintah Basin Association of Governments, and the Six County Association of Governments, to mention just a few. The CIB funds regional planning programs and Land Resource Management Plans through these well established interlocal agencies, but does not fund their administrative, operational, or legal expenses (like they have for the SCIC, to the tune of \$8 million).

The SCIC is redundant and overly reliant on mineral lease grants.

Why is the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition (SCIC) not held to the same standards as other grantees?

From the CIB “Funding Guidelines” and “Grant Application”:

- All applicants must demonstrate that the facilities or services provided will be available and open to the general public and that the proposed funding assistance is not merely a device to pass along low interest government financing to the private sector.
- Total participation in any given project will generally be limited to a maximum of \$5,000,000, regardless of grant/loan mix.
- Planning, study or design requests require a fifty percent cash contribution from the applicant.

The SCIC does not follow any of the above requirements.

- The Uinta Basin Railway is not a public project. The rail service would be used exclusively to transport oil, gas, and related products to and from the Uinta Basin. It remains unclear who will end up owning the railway: the SCIC proposes a “Public/Private Partnership” but has provided no details about what that will actually mean. We don’t need to publicly finance the infrastructure desires of billion dollar fossil fuel corporations, or give them access to low interest government financing.
- The SCIC has requested a total of **\$27.9 million** in grant funding just to study and plan for the Uinta Basin Rail. Other applications are generally capped at \$5 million and rarely receive that much.
- The SCIC has **no matching funds** for the planning, study, and design of the project. This is a required component for all other CIB applicants.



Protect our public funds.

Let the CIB know that you are concerned with this shift in how CIB grants are administered.