Stew Plock, of 350 Silicon Valley, wrote the following letter -- it was published Tuesday, March 15, 2016 in the Salt Lake City Tribune:

We’ll kill coal port

Really? Seriously? Utah would invest $53 million of your taxpayers’ money in the coal industry?

Hasn’t your government heard that solar and wind energy is coming much faster than ever expected, and that investments in renewables are the hot market? They are sweeping out the fossil fuels one by one, and coal is the first to go down. Coal companies are going bankrupt left and right.

Oh, but developers say, “Since the coal market is declining in America, we’ll just ship it to India and China. They’ll burn it there and forget about rising temperatures and the resulting unjust social impacts on the lives of millions of the world’s poor.”

We — some 20 diverse climate, faith, social justice and community groups — can assure you that your Utah coal will not be shipped overseas through the Bay Area. It will be the worst investment your state has ever made. We will bird dog that project forever until it is stopped, either on your end or on ours.

Fossil fuel infrastructure development on the West Coast is a lost cause.

Stew Plock

Palo Alto, Calif.