March 30, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Taos Ski Valley development in the upper Rio Hondo watershed

My name is Jacob Clemens and I am the owner and operator of Artful Angler, a fly fishing guide service operating out of Santa Fe and Taos. The Rio Hondo is a quality trout fishery from the confluence with the Rio Grande near John Dunn Bridge all the way up to Taos Ski Valley. My business relies on quality trout fisheries. It is obvious that development in the upper Rio Hondo Basin would affect the small and sensitive Rio Hondo and would be foolish to proceed without a carful plan and assessment of the impacts on the watershed. My business could be negatively impacted by environmental issues caused by the proposed development.

Conserving trout habitat not only helps my business and other anglers but also is beneficial to the riparian ecosystems and the many living creatures that rely on healthy rivers. It is critically important that any development in the Upper Rio Hondo watershed does not adversely affect the riparian environment downstream. I suggest a careful analysis of the developments environmental impact on the watershed and at the very least slowing down the process to incorporate more public input.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jacob Clemens