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First name: David

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Colleen Garcia,

I strongly oppose the Long Valley Exploration Drilling Project proposed by Kore USA Ltd. (Kore Mining). The proposed mining project threatens the future of the scenic, economically and ecologically important Long Valley area in Mono County.

I am particularly concerned about the proposed project's proximity to Hot Creek, one of the region's iconic fisheries. Though this project is only exploratory for now, as a CalTrout supporter, I am all too aware of the grave impacts mining can have on fish and freshwater ecosystems. Mining operations can lead to sulfuric acid and heavy metal contamination when rainwater or surface drainage carries contaminants to nearby streams, rivers, lakes, and groundwater harming species who rely on these water sources. Not only is this proposed project just above Hot Creek, but the water from Hot Creek eventually flows into Owens River and Crowley Lake, putting this entire ecosystem at risk.

I have raised my now adult children fishing Hot Creek and it would be devastating to the future generation not to experience this fishery base on a exploratory dredging, excavation, and hydraulic mining will cause dramatic stream degradation.

If the operation is granted, it would have long-term ramifications for one of California's iconic wild trout fisheries and for the wildlife surrounding the area.

I strongly OPPOSE even the first exploratory step of this effort to ultimately mine for gold.

Sincerely,

David R. Maldonado