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Comments: I know that the General Mining Act of 1872 allows - and even encourages - the exploration for and mining of gold and other minerals. What it doesn't do is provide for the protection of public lands by defining a process to evaluate, permit, develop, and reclaim mines. As a result, modern mining is nowhere near sustainable and our public lands are constantly being degraded by irresponsible mining operations. Until Congress passes mining law reform, we need to be extra diligent about making sure mining companies follow every rule and take every precaution to ensure the highest level of care for our natural resources. That means "no shortcuts!"

For the reasons cited above, please disallow the categorical exclusion for the F3 Gold Newark Project.

Sincerely,

Meg Schwartz

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