

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/19/2023 7:00:00 AM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Wendy, If you would get these questions to Rob, I would appreciate it. Thanks Victor

Bausell Custer Text from Attachment below: Questions on the F3 Newark Mining Project Rob, I have the following questions to help formulate my comments.

1. Will the gates at 781, 504 and 654 be open year round for their access?
2. On item 2 under water quality, they mention "no seasonal closure planned". So do they intend to operate year round and why do they mention "seasonal" under equipment?
3. On page 4, the table at the top refers to roads and mentions "seasonal". What is meant by seasonal? They do not clearly state the months of work.
4. Who has set the "wildlife area" that is preserved by the gates being closed? SDGF&P?
5. Who monitors the noise, air quality, water quality and settling tanks?
6. In their Plan of Work, they mention "settling tanks" but it does not appear in their list of equipment. Do you have any idea why?
7. Their access map shows use of Upper French Creek from Hwy 16 to 654. With respect to the section of FS road that runs from the intersection of Diamond Rd and Upper French Creek Rd to Custer Limestone, will they be allowed to use that section?
8. If there are violations of their Plan of Work or local and federal laws, who monitors and enforces?
9. If I am right, they have the rights to mine the claims but not the land. So will 781, 504 and 654 be open to the public?
10. It appears they deliberately left out the "noise" section. Do you have any additional information on their plan for that?
11. Do we have the make, model of the equipment they will use to evaluate their impact on the area?
12. Is anyone tasked with monitoring noise?
13. You mentioned you used an existing CE and applied it to this site. Can we get a copy of that document?
14. Where specifically is the Jenny Gulch project and is that area open to the public?
15. I did not see anything on manpower. How many workers do they expect to have onsite?
16. Where will the workers stay? Man-camp? Stay in the forest?
17. There was no specific source for water mentioned, what will that be?
18. The name of the mine/project is "F3 Newark 2020 Exploration Project". I assume that the 2020 is in the name is reference to the year. Does this mean that this has been in the works since 2020?
19. After the one year named in the duration, can they ask for and get an extension?
20. How long would that extension be for?
21. Page 4 also mentions maintenance work on USFS roads. They do not mention the main access roads such as 781 and Upper French Creek Road. What is their plan for maintaining those roads that they will add additional wear and tear on?
22. They do not show storage containers, like the 8'x40' typically used on construction sites. Do you have any information if those are to be used?
23. When they mention "new access alignment's" are they referring to roads?
24. On page 6 they mention 39 drill sites but do not mention the "actual" number of holes to be drilled. Are they allowed to drill as many holes as they deem necessary?
25. They mention that available cultural data sets have been overlain with proposed drill pad locations. Without a current verification of cultural sites by native Americans, how do they know for sure?
26. Have they coordinated with the local municipality for water?
27. I see the water truck on the list of equipment. How many trips per day do they expect on Upper French Creek or 781 roads?
28. Given the list of equipment that cannot be trucked to the drill site, it appears they will need equipment load/unload areas they are not talking about. What do you know about those?

29. In air quality, they mention "vehicles operated to reduce dust dispersion. Since they don't mention a method, what does this mean?

30. On page 8 under water quality they talk about drill cuttings captured in settling tanks. I do not see a secondary containment plan that is required for any potential hazardous materials and runoff. Where is that plan? Appropriate erosion control is not a plan.