

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/2/2021 9:49:52 PM

First name: John

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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).

I am concerned that the proposed mining project threatens the future of this scenic and ecologically sensitive area.

I am particularly concerned about the proposed project's proximity to Hot Creek, one of the region's highly sensitive fisheries. Mining projects have all too often had disastrous environmental impact on the surrounding area. 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.

California is entering into another extreme drought and fire season. This just isn't the time to approve a project like this.

Therefore, I strongly oppose even the first exploratory step of this effort to ultimately mine for gold. At a minimum, a full EIS should be conducted in order to properly assess the full impacts and allow for meaningful public engagement.

Sincerely,  
John Cooke