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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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Dear Ms. Garcia,

As a California State Licensed Architect and water conservation advocate, 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, and ardent fly fisherman, 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. Just look at the caustic results of mining and the massive cleanup effort to the Trestle area, Silver Bow Creek near Deer Lodge Montana and the Milltown Dam removal on the Clark Fork River in NW Montana, narrowly avoiding catastrophic destruction to the Blackfoot River. Every action has a reaction. Excuses do not repair or recover environments that are damaged by stupidity. Remember Murphy's Law..."Whatever can go wrong will", and I add..."If its hasn't gone wrong, you just don't know it yet". So just do not let it happen, by voting NO...

Right now, the need to restore ecosystems rather than degrade them is urgent. California is entering into another extreme drought, another extreme fire season, and is aiming to protect 30% of our lands by 2030. As such, it is completely inappropriate to approve projects like this that will only cause further risk to our natural resources. Therefore, I strongly oppose even the first exploratory step of this effort to ultimately mine for gold. (refer to my Murphy's Law comment above) At a minimum, a full EIS should be conducted in order to properly assess the full impacts and allow for meaningful public engagement.

The sheer ignorance, selfishness, and contempt, misusing cherished and extremely limited water resources Californians enjoy, is arrogantly self-serving. Why mining and drilling companies continuously attempt to gain fortunes, at taxpayers' expense, by destroying public lands, is not only illegal, but also perverse and despicable. Conscience is not part of the thought process, in a decision to attempt procurement of such actions. Therefore, our votes are so important. Your responsibility is to protect our trusted interests. Please stand up and do your job honestly, bravely, and with 100% conviction, not to budge on what you know is morally correct. I greatly appreciate your effort to insure status quo of the natural resources of our great state.

Sincerely yours and respectfully submitted,

RODIN ASSOCIATES

Jerry C. Rodin, Architect AIA

