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First name: Beth

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I write to express my deep misgivings surrounding the Long Valley exploratory drilling proposed by Kore Gold. I am sure that by now, you have received numerous communications that outline the environmental impacts far better than I could hear. As I review the information, my primary concern is how a mining operation would impact the region's fragile water supply. I am a Bishop resident and acutely aware of how strained local water resources have become, particularly in light of this year's meager snowpack and LADWP's inflexibility regarding groundwater pumping. Kore Mining anticipates pulling the water required for their leach operation from the groundwater at the site. Additional groundwater pumping for an extractive industry will lower already depleted water tables. The entire valley will suffer, well beyond the boundaries of the mining site, as dryer conditions reduce wildlife habitat and increase the danger of wildfire. At best, the toxic wastewater would have to be removed from the valley entirely. At worst, it would leak back into the environment.

I urge you to conduct a full environmental review of the proposal. Please consider not only the impacts of the exploratory drilling but of the destructive operation that would follow if the gold deposit is deemed profitable. Extractive development is not in the best interests of our community.

Thank you for your consideration.