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Comments: Exploratory drilling with the intent of mining in the Hot Creek area is a very bad idea, and should be denied.

The site of Kore Mining's exploratory drilling is very sensitive. Given the track record of gold mining companies and their inability to contain the use of toxic chemicals and to curb the effects on land torn up and subsequently eroded, extreme scepticism should be applied to this proposed operation. Nothing that I have seen goes into any detail about how to prevent toxins from leaching right into Hot Creek and then into the Owens River and subsequently Crowley Lake. There is nothing about the contours of the land and what a potential large excavation would do to the ecosystem. Kore mining only makes claims in this the first phase of obviously intended large scale mining.

Given the high recreational value of the Hot Creek area and the ecological integrity of the entire Long Valley, this project is greatly misplaced. It has been shown in the history of gold mining that Kore Mining will add nothing to the quality of the National Forest, but only subtract from it. The positive of job creation is only a relatively short term consideration, and pales beside the long term potential damage.