

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/6/2022 5:27:54 PM

First name: Lawrence

Last name: Baker

Organization:

Title:

Comments: After many years as a ski writer, visiting almost every major ski area in the country, and then living and skiing in Taos for over 15 years, I feel imminently qualified to make remarks about these proposed projects. In short, they are much too ambitious for a narrow, fragile canyon with diminishing rain and snow expectations. There is no other major ski area in the country that presents such enormous problems for expansion than TSV. This plan is essentially raping the environment, not for the benefit of the people of Taos but for the benefit of an already established billionaire. Taosenos have already been priced out of enjoying their mountains. Normal precipitation hasn't been met since I've been here yet "historical snowfall" we'll never see again is touted as the norm. After Louis Bacon bought the Ski Valley, all of the publicity has been around his interest in being ecologically responsible. These proposals make a mockery of his promises. The fact that he, personally, is not demanding an EIS is shameful as it should not even be an issue. It is imperative an EIS be done and done properly, not a pay-off job. The gondola will open up the higher reaches of the canyon where thousands of acres can then be developed, adding more people, more toilet flushings, more showers, more laundry than the Rio Hondo and its people downstream can possibly manage even with modern waste removal systems. On many days driving to ski I could smell the stench of sewage spilling into the Rio Hondo, even after TSV claimed it had mitigated the issue. Besides, why should public monies be used to enhance a private corporation? The only piece of this package I could possibly agree to is a hiking trail up Lift 4. TSV has already destroyed the slope for the mountain bike route so a hiking trail to keep people safe from the bikers would probably be appropriate. DO AN EIS! Be responsible. Don't do this development on this scale.