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Organization:

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Comments: I was at the meeting in Seeley Lake the other night. It was well attended, as was the meeting in Condon. Many people, including myself, drove hours to be there. The public clearly has a LOT to say about this project. Two hours at the meeting was not nearly enough time, as evidenced by the line of people (at least 20 deep) still waiting to speak and ask questions. The public only learned about this project 9/1/22 and, on a project of this size and scope with such overwhelming public opposition, the comment period needs to be further extended. I hope that you will slow this thing down (well, I really hope you'll stop it entirely!) by giving the public more time to review this proposal, ask questions, communicate concerns, and, most importantly, consider other options. I hope you'll hold more meetings and truly hear us. One speaker suggested a meeting in Missoula, the county seat, and I think that's a really good idea. New information is continually coming to light. The public has a right to review that information and the Forest Service has a duty to fully consider that information when making their decisions. There is just too much at stake here to rush this thing through, without careful analysis and public input.

I am vehemently opposed to this proposal and I am requesting an extended comment period, additional public meetings, thorough analysis including an Environmental Impact Statement, thorough consideration of the current HLL permit and it's very specific language regarding transfer of ownership and change in control which would indicate that Mr. Wohlfeil's current permit is no longer valid, and a serious consideration of the THOUSANDS of Montanans who have spoken out against this proposal.