Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 3:22:11 AM

First name: Danielle Last name: Neuhalfen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed Golden Crest Mining Project, as detailed in the article published on the BH Clean Water Alliance website on May 12, 2023. As a concerned citizen and advocate for environmental preservation, I believe that this project poses significant risks to our community's well-being and ecological integrity.

After carefully reviewing the information presented on the BH Clean Water Alliance website, I have become deeply concerned about the potential adverse impacts associated with the Golden Crest Mining Project. Allow me to outline the key reasons why I oppose this project and urge you to reconsider its implementation:

Environmental Concerns: The mining project is set to take place in a delicate ecosystem that supports numerous plant and animal species. The disturbance caused by mining activities, including excavation, transportation, and waste disposal, would irreversibly damage the natural habitat, leading to the loss of biodiversity and disruption of delicate ecological balances.

Water Contamination: The BH Clean Water Alliance article highlights the threat posed by the release of toxic chemicals and heavy metals into the surrounding water bodies. Mining operations often involve the use of hazardous substances, such as cyanide and sulfuric acid, which can leach into the soil and contaminate groundwater, rivers, and streams. This contamination not only endangers aquatic life but also poses a severe risk to human health, particularly for those relying on these water sources for drinking and irrigation.

Air Pollution and Health Risks: The Golden Crest Mining Project, as mentioned in the article, will generate significant air pollution due to dust emissions and the release of harmful particulate matter. This pollution can contribute to respiratory illnesses and other health problems for the local population, including vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions.

Socioeconomic Impacts: The project's short-term economic benefits must be weighed against the potential long-term consequences for the community. Mining projects often lead to boom-bust cycles, where initial economic gains are followed by a decline in job opportunities and economic stability once the mining operation ceases. Additionally, the negative impacts on other sectors, such as tourism and agriculture, can have far-reaching consequences for local businesses and livelihoods.

Considering these concerns, I strongly urge you to reconsider the Golden Crest Mining Project and explore alternative approaches that prioritize sustainable development and environmental stewardship. It is essential to protect our natural resources and prioritize the well-being and long-term prosperity of our community.

I kindly request that you take my opposition into account and ensure that this letter is shared with relevant decision-makers and regulatory bodies involved in the approval process for the Golden Crest Mining Project. Additionally, I would appreciate any information regarding public hearings or opportunities for further input on this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I trust that you will carefully consider the potential consequences of the Golden Crest Mining Project and take appropriate action to safeguard our environment and community's future.