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Comments: As an ER physician I am very concerned about the health effects of stibnite mine for our community. Perpetua has not adequately shown that our water quality will remain safe, as eventually the liner used to hold the toxins will break down. Also, there can be spillage from the multiple trucks going to the mine with toxic materials from accidents, which are very likely due to the roads going through dangerous steep winter country. In addition, there is not an adequate plan for emergencies or trauma occurring to mine workers. Many times in the winter due to weather, we are unable to fly critical patients to Boise from the hospital in McCall, and sometimes we can't even get them to Boise by ground during storms. In these cases, sometimes we have to keep critical patients that we don't have adequate resources for at the McCall hospital for days until the weather clears. This will be even more of a problem for the workers at the mine, especially because the Burnt Log road is at such a high elevation that it will get large amounts of snow, sometimes making it impassable and prone to avalanches. It will be extremely difficult to get hurt or sick workers to the hospital in the winter during storms. There would need to be highly trained medical personnel on site with access to orthopedic supplies, IV supplies, medications, and a place for sick or hurt patients to stay for several nights in case of winter storms making transport impossible. There would need to be reliable communications systems and possibly telehealth to be able to consult doctors to take care of these patients until they are able to be transported, which can sometimes be several days with weather. Therefore, having a mine in this remote area with dangerous roads will be too hazardous for both the mine workers and surrounding communities due to emergency transportation difficulties and risk of water and environmental toxin contamination.

Thank you.

Julie Welty M.D.