

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: BOS Public Comment
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 8:42 AM
To: All BOS Board Members
Cc: Matt Kelley; Brian Foss; Caleb Dardick
Subject: FW: Letter to Board Supervisors Re: Rise Gold
Attachments: Idaho Maryland Mine NOP comments.docx

Dist 1

From: Justin Pfaffinger <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Sunday, December 13, 2020 6:17 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Letter to Board Supervisors Re: Rise Gold

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To Whom it May Concern,

Attached please find a letter addressed to Senior County Supervisor, Matt Kelly. I am submitting this letter for the Board of Supervisors meeting this Tuesday morning, December 15th at 9am, addressing key issues affecting the proposed reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine by Rise Gold Inc. I want this letter to be read aloud by any member of the board during public comment as well as formally submitted for the entire board to review. There is insufficient description of the proposed Mine activities to complete an adequate environmental assessment or to meet the requirement of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and as such the Mine cannot open legally.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Pfaffinger

--
"Let love and faithfulness never leave you; Bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart." - Proverbs 3:3

.....
JUSTIN M. PFAFFINGER, DDS

Family Group Practice
[REDACTED]

December 15, 2020

Matt Kelley, Senior Planner
Nevada County Planning Department
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959-8617

Mr. Kelley:

This letter of comment on the Notice of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Report and Public Scoping Meeting for the Idaho-Maryland Mine Project. Please note that these comments highlight important issues that will have to be addressed in the EIR.

The project as designed is not sufficiently described to be evaluated at this time. There is insufficient description of the proposed activities to complete an adequate environmental assessment or to meet the requirement of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The general issues that would need to be resolved either in, or prior to preparing and EIR are described below.

The overarching purpose in preparing an Environmental Impact Report is to provide the public and the decision-makers with detailed information about a project's environmental effects, ways to minimize the project's significant environmental effects, and reasonable alternatives to the project. The Notice of Preparation does not identify any reasonable alternatives for the proposed action. If reasonable alternatives are not identified, the NOP is deficient and will need to be reissued.

The project is not adequately described to support a reasonable assessment of impacts. For instance, according to the project description, "The proposed project would reinitiate underground mining and gold mineralization processing for the Idaho-Maryland Mine over an 80-year permit period... To provide access to the gold mineralization, an extensive network of tunnels and raises would be constructed throughout the life of the mine... Mine development in nonmineralized "barren" rock (i.e., non-gold bearing) is expected to result in the production of approximately 500 tons per day (182,500 tons per year) of barren rock... Gold mineralization production through tunneling and long-hole blasting as part of the proposed project is anticipated to produce 1,000 tons per a day (365,000 tons per year) of mineralized material. Approximately 50 percent of the mineralization would be returned to the underground mine as backfill after processing, and the remainder would be used for engineered fill." Therefore, the mine would produce about 1000 tons per day of engineered fill for 80 years. However, the use of engineered fill at the Brunswick Industrial Site and the Centennial Industrial Site are stated to take place over six years and five years, respectively. The location, disposition and related impacts of disposing the additional 75 years of fill are not accounted for in the project plan.

Dewatering a mine with exposed minerals has the potential for creating groundwater and surface water contamination. At the abandoned Walker Mine in Plumas County, water flowed out of the mine in the spring. The remaining minerals in the mine were exposed, and as they were exposed, they oxidized. In the winter, the mine filled up with water again and the oxides went into solution. Then in the spring, the water flowed back out of the mine, which turned blue/green with copper oxides. This annual oxidation and solution process caused the Walker Mine to be a superfund site:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/mining/region5_success_stories/walker_mine/. Obviously, dewatering the Idaho Maryland mine will expose minerals to air and oxidation. The project plan notes there will be a continuing inflow of 1.9 cfs. There is a potential for this inflow to carry oxidized minerals into the local aquifer, contaminating it for future potable water use. The EIR would be inadequate if it does not address the significant impact dewatering could have on groundwater quality.

Surface water streams and associated aquatic resources would likely be negatively impacted by initial mining dewatering. Water pulled from the mine and released into Wolf Creek would add significantly to normal and peak flows. Aquatic populations would experience large habitat increases, followed by drastic habitat reductions when releases are completed. The timing of the release is also important, with impacts varying depending on the flows over the 6 month or longer release period. The EIR would be deficient if these negative impacts were not assessed.

Groundwater quantity available for local use would also be affected by dewatering. Dewatering the mine will create a cone of depression in the local water table, drawing groundwater towards the mine, and away from local wells. This may cause some wells to have reduced production, or to fail completely. This will result in negative community impacts due to loss of water and/or additional cost for holding tanks or new, deeper wells. A full analysis of the drawdown of the local water table, and the identification and impact to specific local wells is required.

As noted in the project plan, the Centennial Industrial Site is the location of previous mine tailings from the Idaho Maryland mine. The NOP notes that the Centennial Industrial Site currently cannot be developed due to unstable soils and/or contamination associated with historic deposition of mine tailings on the site. The excavated rock from the Idaho Maryland mine are similarly tailings, and there is no objective data demonstrating that this rock is not contaminated, or that the total excavation is fully known at this point. The EIR would be deficient if it did not evaluate alternatives for disposal of excavated material. If engineered fill were sold in the open market, the EIR should assess the impact of this supply on other quarries in the area, including Hansen Brothers and Parks Barr.

The impact of the mine operations extends beyond the footprint of the site boundaries and the Area of Potential Effect should be identified early. For instance, local sites that have cultural significance to the Native American community can be negatively affected by noise and light pollution. The EIR would be deficient if the Native American community was not consulted about any sensitive cultural resources that could be affected by the project.

The use of explosives can have unintended consequences, and recent seismic activity in the Sierras is increasing. The EIR should evaluate whether seismic faults exist in the area and whether blasting could exacerbate faults and create new pathways for contaminated mine water to reach domestic groundwater supplies.

The cumulative impacts of the proposed action would include reductions in property values and associated property tax revenues associated with negative impacts of multi-year construction of large scale disposal sites, almost continuous truck traffic, , noise, light and visual pollution. Cumulative negative impacts to the community would have to be considered in the context of reasonably foreseeable future actions such as economic downturns related to the Coronavirus pandemic. Additional use of NID water should be considered in the context of future demands for NID water. Improvements

required for future NID infrastructure that result from Idaho Maryland Mine and other increased demands are clearly connected actions that require assessment under CEQA.

The proposed action would change the visual, cultural, and aesthetic character of the community for decades. It would be 5-6 years or more before the construction of the fill areas are completed, and in the mean time, these would be visible from major transportation routes. The change in visual character would likely negatively impact tourism with resulting economic declines. The continuous noise and light of the operation would reduce property values.

The project would have positive effects resulting from increased employment and the economic and social benefits those bring to the community. However, these effects are already noted in the project plan.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Submitted by Dr Justin Pfaffinger
Grass Valley resident

Nevada City, CA. 95959



Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: BOS Public Comment
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:16 PM
To: All BOS Board Members
Cc: Matt Kelley; Brian Foss; Caleb Dardick
Subject: FW: Idaho Maryland Mine

District 1

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2020 3:09 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Idaho Maryland Mine

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Dear Board,

I am writing to reinforce my email sent months back that listed links and information on Benjamin Mossman the CEO of Rise Gold, and my concerns about the re-opening of the Idaho Maryland Mine.

From the evidence and background information of previous businesses Benjamin Mossman has overseen it is clear that Grass Valley will not be served in having the mine re-opened.

My concerns are many, in particular:

- Water quality, especially during these drought years.
- Proximity to nearby homes
- Property values being impacted
- Local tourist economy / loss of revenue
- Noise and traffic pollution

Also, in Canada where Mr.Mossman has overseen mining setups the provincial government was left holding the bag on the mining cleanup.

Tax payers beware!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Long
Resident and property owner since 1975
Retired county library worker.

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Dist 4

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Greg N. Poppin [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 12, 2020 1:35 PM
To: matt.kelly@co.nevada.ca.us; bdofsupervisors; Public Health; Env.Health; BOS Public Comment; Heidi Hall; Dan Miller; Sue Hoek; Richard Anderson; Ken Cutler; Amy Irani
Subject: Rise Mine Opposition

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: Senior Planner, Matt Kelley , the Grass Valley City Council, and the Nevada County Board of Supervisors,

As a 20+ year resident of Grass Valley I am voicing my opinion in opposition to the proposed mine project for many reasons:

The gold mining industry has left behind a toxic legacy we are still recovering from, haven't we learned our lessons?!

Our watershed will be negatively impacted as well as our ground water, exacerbated by our already drought conditions.

The noise contamination will be something unprecedented in our community and intolerable for the surrounding community!

Surrounding real estate values will be impacted negatively.

Please, consider these impacts and vote **no** on this mine disaster.

Respectfully, Greg Poppin

Julie Patterson-Hunter

Disref

From: Georgia Green [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 5, 2020 10:01 AM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Opposed to Rise mine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am wholeheartedly opposed to opening a new mine in our beautiful community. It's truly the LAST thing that we need and would be an environmental and public health TRAGEDY. I thought we were the home of the wild and scenic film festival because we care about our nature. Please do the right thing.

~Georgia Green

Nevada City resident, 8 years

Julie Patterson-Hunter

Beatz

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 4, 2020 4:41 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Idaho Maryland Mine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I oppose reopening the mine. If you want my vote in the next election, the Board of Supervisors should vote NO.

Unable to identify

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Russ Woodward [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 3, 2020 5:13 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: mine opening

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, I do not want the mine to open under any circumstance. I have health issues and would have to move and sell my house due to all the dust and pollution. Thank you, Rachel Woodward [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: Lisa Nowlain [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 25, 2020 1:50 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Public comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I am writing in support of proper COVID-19 protections in this county. As a former county employee, librarian, homeowner, and parent in this county, I have been dismayed by the lack of Federal guidance and support during this pandemic. It is time for local government to step up to protect its residents.

I believe the following are appropriate for ensuring our safety, so that we can get back to business as soon as possible.

1. Consistent signage at all businesses (perhaps created by local artists?) reminding people to wear masks over their nose and mouth.
2. Consistent floor stickers marking 6 feet apart that businesses can enforce.
3. Hand sanitizer available inside and outside businesses.
4. Overturning the August 11th decision not to enforce the fine on the Restaurant Coalition. Their flagrant disregard for the safety of their employees and patrons should not continue, and we are now at an urgent level. They should also have signage that alerts patrons that they are not following COVID-19 safe guidelines, and therefore there is a risk to all who enter the premises. Anyone who doesn't follow these guidelines should attend informational sessions to learn about infectious diseases, and learn from real COVID patients.

This is a racial justice issue, as Latino and African-American residents have been 3 times more likely to become infected as their white neighbors, and twice as likely to die. When guidelines are not followed, we are saying we don't care about our Latino and African-American residents.

As a librarian, I care deeply about information literacy. It is clear that people are relying on misleading information and do not have the skills to decipher medical information. Information literacy should be something that is taught to residents and public officials. There are many resources that I would be happy to supply.

Thanks for your service in these difficult times.

Best,
Lisa Nowlain

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MLIS

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 7:31 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Masks

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello-
I am a Nevada City resident and I believe both the city and the county should take a strong stance on wearing masks. The best current evidence suggests that wearing masks will significantly reduce transmission. All businesses who are allowing customers inside should be trained in proper mask protocols and any businesses that refuse to enforce them should face some type of consequence. Since our county is currently in the purple tier, we must take some strong actions if we want to protect our citizens.

Thank you,
Lily Gicker
[REDACTED]

From: Crystal Cook [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 2:50 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Please reconsider COVID Ordinance

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors and whom it may concern,

My name is Crystal Cook, a Nevada County resident for 11 years. I am very concerned about the staggering increase in COVID cases during the month of November. Please reconsider the urgency COVID ordinance.

The following changes could be made to support the health and wellbeing of all in Nevada County:

1. Consistent Signage at all Businesses reminding people they MUST wear masks over both their nose and mouth.
2. Consistent Floor Stickers marking 6 feet distances that are enforced by that business's employees.
3. Hand Sanitizer available both outside and inside all businesses.
4. **Overturing the August 11th decision to not enforce the \$8,000 in fines on the Restaurant Coalition businesses who have defined all the state mandates.**
5. Mandatory Informational sessions for anti-mask business owners with healthcare workers in our community who have worked with infectious diseases and/or local COVID patients.
6. Mandatory 20% Surcharge on to-go food for wait staff who are no longer are supported by gratuity. Most customer service jobs pay next to nothing and are sustained off their tip pool.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,
Crystal Cook

Dist 3

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Sean Patrick Leydon [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 1:52 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: RE: Covid precautions

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

In my experience working construction through most of the Covid pandemic I've noticed very many people and businesses slipping as we enter the winter season.

With multiple state healthcare systems on the verge of collapse (we can't replace personnel fast enough) it's truly time to take this seriously my friends.

Listen to your people. Take action. Please help folks understand how to keep their families safe during this time.

Sean Patrick Leydon
[REDACTED]

Bst 1

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Jeanne Yao Doty [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 24, 2020 11:47 AM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Rise Grass Valley, Inc; application # 20PLN-24

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Board of Supervisors,

As a resident of Nevada County, I would like let you know that I am AGAINST re-opening the Idaho Maryland Gold Mine due to the following:

1. Impact to the air quality
2. Traffic concerns
3. Waste Dumping
4. Water contamination

Please take this into consideration for your meeting on December 17, 2020.

Thank you

Jeanne Doty
[REDACTED]

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: Tony Lauria [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 7:41 PM
To: BOS Public Comment
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment BOS on the Idaho Maryland Mine proposal. Please read aloud

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hydrology and Hydro Geology are complex systems, and not fully understood by the best professionals in the field. No one creating reports for the Idaho Maryland Mine proposal, can predict for sure, what will happen if a company is allowed to pump out 4 million gallons of our precious water, daily, then drill and blast deep into the residentially zoned areas of these massive project boundaries.

We do, however, have historical facts of what *has* happened to the environment in the vicinity of deep bedrock mines, here in this county. This is the direct evidential data that should be at the basis of any proposal consideration. I refer to the Siskon Mine incident in 1995, for anyone who needs to be reminded of the dangers. Many false promises were made there too. Just like this current company, they assured that all will be fine. No wells would be impacted, and dangerous toxic conditions would not ensue. How terribly wrong that was. How deeply the citizens paid, with their devalued property, with their fouled toxic wells, with their health.

The above ground sites for this proposal are zoned "light industrial". The areas underground are directly below "residentially zoned" areas. What right does any company have to invade huge residential areas and destroy them? There should be absolutely no path to any planning approval that would support a devastating re-zone of these sites. Furthermore, such invasive, dangerous, heavy-industrial operations should never be allowed to take place under the thousands of homes within the proposed boundaries. Any company proposing a massive high risk operation should begin with a bond of millions, held in trust for potential failures, destruction of lives and property. We all know that is not in their profit plan.

I urge our county governing body, that we employ with our taxes, to stand strong and protect your citizens by rejecting this dangerous proposal. It can only result in heartache, destroyed lives, property and the environment. Don't allow our community to become a deserted, toxic, dry industrial wasteland.

Submitted by
Tony Lauria
[REDACTED]

Public Comment

Transparency

The public's right to access public records created and maintained by the County is understood and embraced in Nevada County. Nevada County strives to provide services and records in a transparent manner, which includes timely access to requested records in accordance with the California Public Records Act (Gov't Code Section 6250, et seq).

I am therefore objecting to Nevada County's policy of having County Counsel review public records requests for documents that already exist, and should be readily available and easily accessed, without undue interference and delay. I believe this is an illegal obstruction of the Public Records Request Act and not in the spirit of cooperation and transparency.

In a July 17th Public Records Request to the Community Corrections Partnership Executive Committee, I requested creating an AB109 document repository using a clear taxonomy for labeling and filing, to foster readier public access to budget information, minutes of meetings, etc., making sure this database is clearly identified and web-accessible (under the Community Corrections Partnership heading). My experience so far is that it is abundantly clear that your current system is insufficient to meet the needs of the public. I received no response to my request, and of this date, nothing has been corrected to make it easier to access documents.

Also, I am requesting that the CCP Chair post both the agendas and minutes of all CCP regular meetings and Executive Committee meetings. I am also requesting that all meetings of the CCP and the Executive Committee be recorded to ensure transparency. No CCP meetings, including Zoom meetings, having to do with budgeting public funds, or any other topic, should take place behind the scenes, out of public knowledge and scrutiny.

These are the *already existing documents* I am requesting be posted on the Probation Website Under Community Corrections Partnership.

- 1). All yearly BSCC Reports or their links
- (2). All yearly Staff Letters from the CCP Chair to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Resolution to approve the Partnership Plan
- (3). The yearly Resolution regarding the Community Corrections Partnership
- (4). The yearly Partnership Plan, approved by the Board of Supervisors.
- (5). All the final Budget Expenditures for each year.
- (6). All agendas for each meeting conducted by the CCP and additionally the Executive Committee. All meeting minutes! All recorded meetings
- (7). All PRA's having to do with the Community Corrections Partnership and all responses to those PRA's, (*so others seeking answers will be informed of previous requests*)

Included with this public comment are my recent letter to County Counsel and the response letter, to be entered into the record. It seems County Counsel misunderstood my request and were given false information that the documents I want posted would be part of the Community Corrections dashboard when it is completed. The dashboard has nothing to do with these documents. I only want the documents, *which already exist*, posted on the Probation website under Community Corrections Partnership, including *“all my public records requests having to do with the CCP, and the subsequent responses I received from County Counsel and the Sheriff’s Department”*. These are also public documents and should be available for review.

The County website technician can easily move the existing documents to the Community Corrections Partnership location. This way anyone interested in the CCP, and its activities, will easily be able to access the documents without the assistance of County Counsel. This will save taxpayer funds in the future.

Thank you,

Pauli Halstead, District 1

From: [Russ Woodward](#)
To: [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: mine opening
Date: Thursday, December 3, 2020 6:44:54 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi My name is Russ Woodward and I object to the mine reopening. We are going to move it this happens despite living here for decades. Our lungs can;t take any more dirt and dust. Tahank you, Russ Woodward

On Thursday, December 3, 2020, 05:13:48 PM PST, BOS Public Comment
<bos.publiccomment@co.nevada.ca.us> wrote:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Julie Patterson-Hunter

From: BOS Public Comment
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 12:35 PM
To: All BOS Board Members
Cc: Matt Kelley; Brian Foss; Caleb Dardick
Subject: FW: 10/15/20_Public Comment for BOS-Mine Reopening Proposal

Dist 1

From: Tony Lauria [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 11:19 AM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: 10/15/20_Public Comment for BOS-Mine Reopening Proposal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We all hope and pray common sense has consumed the board on this mine reopening issue. Nonetheless, such a potential disaster demands we keep the facts fresh in our minds, lest we drop our guard to those that would seek to destroy the peaceful, healthy life we now enjoy.

For anyone who still might be misguided and believe this spells growth and jobs for the community, let me be one of the thousands that say such reasoning is absurd. This type of project will only create a *cancerous growth*, which will destroy the community, environment and all that we cherish of our lives here in the beautiful foothills of Nevada County. We also know the small number of jobs will be low skilled and temporary.

A mass exodus of citizens would ensue, as well as the unimaginable devaluation of property for miles in every direction. As I have stated before, this entire area would become a dry industrial wasteland. This community of thousands of individuals, unequivocally rejects the request to change or alter the zoning to heavy industrial. No such "heavy industrial" operations can ever be allowed to function below our residentially zones homes.

The entire proposal is the equivalent of a terrorist attack on the community. The list of devastating impacts is SO outrageous, it's beyond comprehension to think anyone would support such an egregious proposition. Scan that list at any point and you will find insurmountable data that has direct evidence for an impact that cannot be mitigated to less than significant. Breathing the toxic silica and asbestos dust, for example. These are invisible to the naked eye, but deadly to the lungs, as the wind carries it throughout the community.

Look to gold mining historical data for the toxic legacy that still contaminates our area. This is beyond common sense. It's direct factual evidence of what happens....for sure.

We hold our elected officials responsible to protect our health, welfare and well being. Any decision other than an emphatic NO to this horrid proposal, is a violation of that responsibility. The facts dictate the proper response. There is not a truthful, valid study or report that will indicate these impacts will be less than significant.

A parting thought; Imagine you and your family live here in ground-zero territory. Would the impact risks be worth you and your family's health and well being?

Submitted by:
Lauria



From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: Idaho Maryland Mine
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:44:09 AM

District 3

From: Susan Bowman-Wulf [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:29 AM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Idaho Maryland Mine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Nevada County Supervisors,

I have been a resident of Nevada County since 1995, bought my home, and raised 2 children from birth. I always imagined this is where I would live out my final days, in the home I have put my heart and soul into for the last 22 years.

I live off of Brunswick & Woodrose across from the old abandoned mine that was a lumber mill and now for whatever insane reason, the proposed opening of the toxic reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine. I will be one of the ones whose home values will drop significantly, my beautiful property with so many little creatures and trees that will soon be gone (due to toxins), the noise will be unbearable and the light from 24/7 mining will be disgusting!

I ask all of you to imagine this happening to you, do you care, is money a bigger concern than the people you represent? This company has a horrible track record and you know this, shame on you, shame on you!

The impact on our beautiful community is overwhelming, pollution in Wolf creek, the disposal of tailings, the enormous amount of water that's used per day in our constant drought, and the trucks running through town with toxic materials is beyond belief, how could you? Do you think this company thinks our county is special and they will treat us with respect and care, HAH, think again!

I beg you to consider the beauty of where you live and I live over a group of grifters so to speak, say no to this travesty.

Sue Bowman



Dream it
Believe it
Achieve it

From: [Julie Patterson-Hunter](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: comment on Gold Rise Mine applications for operation in Nevada County and Grass Valley
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:50:54 AM

Dist 1

From: Rondal Snodgrass [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:54 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Cc: bdofsupervisors <bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: comment on Gold Rise Mine applications for operation in Nevada County and Grass Valley

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I live in Nevada City, 14582 Alderwood Way within District 1 Heidi Hall, Supervisor

COMMENT:

Much has been said, and much as been documented , and many comments have been submitted re Rise Gold

To understand what this is about, I went to the County website and examined the referenced documents submitted, and drove to both the Brunswick and Centennial sites.

Just a few of the shocking impacts found in the documents are:

- 23 acres of forest to be removed
- 30,00 gallon diesel tank on site
- explosives used and stored on site-
- tailings piled higher than most if not any building in the city of Grass Valley
- millions of yard of fill
- slurry treated and dumped into Wolf Creek
- `-huge volumes of ground water used for pumping and treatment
- a parking lot for 217 cars
- huge trucks constantly hauling rock and tailings from one site to the other
- Asbestos released from serpentine rocks blasted and removed
- Truck traffic congesting already busy city and county road.

My best analogy is to a horror movie:

The plot is all there: a discredited individual and gang threaten to come to a village and take over resources.

Their predecessors have been here before and poisoned water, permanently damaged rivers, killed and removed indigenous people, left toxics for decades and all was for gold.

Gold that will not be used or enjoyed or seen by the village people themselves will be stolen and sent off to

other whereabouts

Then a story of safety, jobs and improved life is pitched to get support from village leaders.

People in the village get scared, enraged want justice and protection. They remember attempts by the likes of previous perpetrators who have been here before that were dismissed, denied, defeated and done with but.....

But in this horror movie Zombies come back to haunt the villagers. What is a Zombie? It is an evil entity that has died put to rest and whose corpse is revived. Knowing how to get to the Zombies and eliminate them one needs to get to the brain; and destroy it, so in other words the plan and the thinking behind the plan needs to be eliminated. The champions, defenders of the village, the elected officials, see the threat and defeat it, but not just once, but once and for all.

This movie script analogy can have such a good ending and a beneficial resolve.

Now is the time to stop the Rise Gold story and move toward formulating laws, strict zoning, ordinances and policy directives to end the inherent dangers of any and all mining in Nevada County.

Rondal Snodgrass
Conservation Land Consultant



From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: Rice Gold nightmare
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:00:11 AM

Dist 1

From: Julie Carville [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:08 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Rice Gold nightmare

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

December 14, 2020

Dear County Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to express my intense opposition to allowing the Rise Gold's horrific mining project to come into our community. This mine will damage our way of life, for all the reasons I'm sure you know about, so I don't need to waste your time repeating them.

Wasting time and money to even consider allowing any more mines here, when we know how damaging they have been, doesn't make sense. Mining, shouldn't be glorified as we done, it has caused severe damage that we are still trying to clean up after more than 100 years, so let's use some common sense.

I want the Board of Supervisors to pass a law, or do whatever is required to outlaw any more mines forever in our community. This isn't a dream, it is doable. We don't need their jobs, we can create jobs that benefit our community, not rape it.

Please, for all of us and future generations, come up with a law now to prevent any more wasted money and time to even consider a new mine. These companies are like monsters that keep coming back to harass us, demanding the right to be here so they can make money.

I have lived here for 30 years and want our community to protect what it is that causes people to come here and live with peace and beauty. We have enough problems to work on here, without one of them being a mine proposal. Please step up and be leaders for this sensible cause.

Thanks and Sincerely,

Julie Carville

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment - Supervisors Meeting 12/15/2020
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:38:36 AM

Dist 1

From: R B [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:45 AM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Cc: Ray Bryars [REDACTED] >
Subject: Public Comment - Supervisors Meeting 12/15/2020

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Public Comment - Supervisors Meeting
12/15/2020

My name is Ray Bryars and I live [REDACTED] in Nevada City.

The last few Nevada County Supervisors Meetings have seen an outpouring of concern about the possibility of Ben Mossman CEO of Rise Gold, re-opening the Idaho Maryland Mine.

It is apparent that Nevada County has moved a long way since the last ounce of gold was removed from local mines. The community no longer wants to be impacted by risky mining projects that have a history of leaving behind toxic legacies.

Resident who live close to the proposed mine, have previously implored the Supervisors to consider that Ben Mossman's history of ineptitude, fraud and bankruptcy, means he can't be trusted. CEO Ben Mossman has a new trial set for 2021 in Canada where he has left behind environmental cleanup that was estimated to cost \$1.6M.

It is clear that there is strong community resistance to any kind of mining so close to a residential area, senior centers, the hospital and downtown Grass Valley. Residents do not want to go through this stress every few years. They want their elected officials to protect them by putting a stop to any chance of ever opening a mine so close to Grass Valley.

We need to explore what could be done to protect our community from continuously having to play whack a mole with a never ending stream of penny stock mining companies. We should be able to develop this area so that it is an economic benefit to the community.

For the benefit of the residents of Grass Valley, I respectfully request that our Supervisors put in place a team of community leaders who would be tasked with investigating opportunities to clean up the toxic legacy, identify options for low impact economic development, while ensuring that we will never have to live in fear of another penny stock mining company disrupting the lives of so many Grass Valley residents.

Thanks for your time
Ray Bryars

From: [Julie Patterson-Hunter](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Bcc: [Barbara Price](#)
Subject: FW: Concerns about Rise Gold and mine
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 5:21:00 PM

Dist 3

From: Veronika Behlmer <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 12:35 PM
To: Julie Patterson-Hunter <Julie.Patterson-Hunter@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Re: Concerns about Rise Gold and mine

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Thank you Julie. Here you go.

December 15, 2020

Nevada County Supervisors
Rood Administration Center
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City CA 95959

Re: Rise Gold

Dear Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Is the county planning on doing due diligence of the claim that 300 jobs would be created by Rise Gold and if a large percent could be filled by locals ? With Gold prices near lifetime highs, anyone who lives in the area with mining skills is probably at work in the Nevada mines or elsewhere. Are we taking their number in good faith even though Mr Mossman has had issues in the past while in Canada. The EmGold DEIR indicated that there would be 30 employees for a period of approximately 5 years [page 4.13-3 of the Em Gold DEIR]. This period covered only the dewatering phase. Why is there such a difference between what Rise claims and EmGold? The 300 or so jobs could be in the distant future if EmGold was assuming it would take five years to drain the tunnels.

Is the county taking on potential liability risk if:

-sink hole(s) should occur on county property from draining the tunnels or by the use of explosives in the tunnels? There have been two in the area in the last five years.

-liability from other environmental hazards?

For properties at high risk of their wells being dewatered, Rise has offered to pay for water hook up. What exactly does that mean? Would it mean just put in a meter or bring water via pipe down

Bennett with homeowner bearing the cost of connecting to the Bennett pipe? The cost would be considerable as most houses are set back 500 to 2000 feet. The best of my knowledge Rise is not willing to pay for on going water to affected houses which they claim would be less than a half dozen. This does not inspire confidence in their hydrology report. Do they feel the problem could be more widespread than in the report as the cost to Rise would be relatively small to supply 4-8 houses compared to total costs of the project.

The following is a concern, not a question for the Board: A local property manager who handles 450 units indicated in a recent conversation there is a wait list of 50 people for rentals. If indeed Rise does create the jobs they promise, where will the people live with such a tight housing market? Will they push up rents making it harder for local essential workers to be able to live here?

I understand the need for attracting capital to the area, but with covid and people locating away from cities, our area would seem to be an attractive alternative to work remotely for workers who would bring their discretionary income as a shot in the arm for the local economy. If this is the case, this lessens the need for mining employment.

Thank you,

Tom Behlmer

From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: BOS meeting 12/15/2020- Opposition to Reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine
Date: Wednesday, December 16, 2020 7:39:44 AM

Dist 1

From: maryannemurphyesq [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:45 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: BOS meeting 12/15/2020- Opposition to Reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board,

I oppose the reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine. While there are many issues involved, one issue is paramount and that is the Fire Risk.

I believe you will find that the operations proposed by Rise Gold constitute a very high and severe risk of fire.

Californians face right now the highest risk of forest fire from factors beyond in some respects our control. To permit an increase in the fire risk in residential and business communities such as ours from mining operations is the worse possible choice that you could make.

Property owners already are having difficulty qualifying for insurance due to the increased forest fire risk. It is highly unlikely that any insurance company will be willing to insure residences and businesses due to additional risk of fire from mining operation anywhere in Nevada County. In fact, if a severe fire broke out due to mining operations that could not be contained, it could ignite a fire spreading to all of Nevada City, Grass Valley, and the surrounding areas causing death, injury, and loss of property.

In my view, there are no conditions that will mitigate this risk under the applicant's proposal.

Sincerely, Maryanne Murphy, Esq.

Murphy Law Firm

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

This communication is confidential and intended for the recipient only. It is also protected by

attorney -work product and client privileges under California law.

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: Idaho Maryland Mine
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:44:09 AM

District 3

From: Susan Bowman-Wulf [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:29 AM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Idaho Maryland Mine

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Dear Nevada County Supervisors,

I have been a resident of Nevada County since 1995, bought my home, and raised 2 children from birth. I always imagined this is where I would live out my final days, in the home I have put my heart and soul into for the last 22 years.

I live off of Brunswick & Woodrose across from the old abandoned mine that was a lumber mill and now for whatever insane reason, the proposed opening of the toxic reopening of the Idaho Maryland Mine. I will be one of the ones whose home values will drop significantly, my beautiful property with so many little creatures and trees that will soon be gone (due to toxins), the noise will be unbearable and the light from 24/7 mining will be disgusting!

I ask all of you to imagine this happening to you, do you care, is money a bigger concern than the people you represent? This company has a horrible track record and you know this, shame on you, shame on you!

The impact on our beautiful community is overwhelming, pollution in Wolf creek, the disposal of tailings, the enormous amount of water that's used per day in our constant drought, and the trucks running through town with toxic materials is beyond belief, how could you? Do you think this company thinks our county is special and they will treat us with respect and care, HAH, think again!

I beg you to consider the beauty of where you live and I live over a group of grifters so to speak, say no to this travesty.

Sue Bowman



Dream it
Believe it
Achieve it

From: [Julie Patterson-Hunter](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: comment on Gold Rise Mine applications for operation in Nevada County and Grass Valley
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 7:50:54 AM

Dist 1

From: Rondal Snodgrass [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:54 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Cc: bdofsupervisors <bdofsupervisors@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: comment on Gold Rise Mine applications for operation in Nevada County and Grass Valley

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I live in Nevada City, 14582 Alderwood Way within District 1 Heidi Hall, Supervisor

COMMENT:

Much has been said, and much as been documented , and many comments have been submitted re Rise Gold

To understand what this is about, I went to the County website and examined the referenced documents submitted, and drove to both the Brunswick and Centennial sites.

Just a few of the shocking impacts found in the documents are:

- 23 acres of forest to be removed
- 30,00 gallon diesel tank on site
- explosives used and stored on site-
- tailings piled higher than most if not any building in the city of Grass Valley
- millions of yard of fill
- slurry treated and dumped into Wolf Creek
- `-huge volumes of ground water used for pumping and treatment
- a parking lot for 217 cars
- huge trucks constantly hauling rock and tailings from one site to the other
- Asbestos released from serpentine rocks blasted and removed
- Truck traffic congesting already busy city and county road.

My best analogy is to a horror movie:

The plot is all there: a discredited individual and gang threaten to come to a village and take over resources.

Their predecessors have been here before and poisoned water, permanently damaged rivers, killed and removed indigenous people, left toxics for decades and all was for gold.

Gold that will not be used or enjoyed or seen by the village people themselves will be stolen and sent off to

other whereabouts

Then a story of safety, jobs and improved life is pitched to get support from village leaders.

People in the village get scared, enraged want justice and protection. They remember attempts by the likes of previous perpetrators who have been here before that were dismissed, denied, defeated and done with but.....

But in this horror movie Zombies come back to haunt the villagers. What is a Zombie? It is an evil entity that has died put to rest and whose corpse is revived. Knowing how to get to the Zombies and eliminate them one needs to get to the brain; and destroy it, so in other words the plan and the thinking behind the plan needs to be eliminated. The champions, defenders of the village, the elected officials, see the threat and defeat it, but not just once, but once and for all.

This movie script analogy can have such a good ending and a beneficial resolve.

Now is the time to stop the Rise Gold story and move toward formulating laws, strict zoning, ordinances and policy directives to end the inherent dangers of any and all mining in Nevada County.

Rondal Snodgrass
Conservation Land Consultant



From: [BOS Public Comment](#)
To: [All BOS Board Members](#)
Cc: [Matt Kelley](#); [Brian Foss](#); [Caleb Dardick](#)
Subject: FW: Rice Gold nightmare
Date: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 8:00:11 AM

Dist 1

From: Julie Carville [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 10:08 PM
To: BOS Public Comment <BOS.PublicComment@co.nevada.ca.us>
Subject: Rice Gold nightmare

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December 14, 2020

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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12/15/2020

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Dist 3

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December 15, 2020

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Rood Administration Center
950 Maidu Ave.
Nevada City CA 95959

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Dist 1

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Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 9:45 PM
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In my view, there are no conditions that will mitigate this risk under the applicant's proposal.

Sincerely, Maryanne Murphy, Esq.

Murphy Law Firm

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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attorney -work product and client privileges under California law.

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