

Nevada County Democratic Central Committee

Resolution

Opposing Rise Gold's proposal to re-open the Idaho Maryland Mine

Whereas, the proposal by Rise Grass Valley, a subsidiary of Rise Gold Corp., for an 80 year, 7 day a week, 24 hour operation of mining machinery and trucking of mine materials will create negative impacts to the air quality, water quality, ambient light and noise levels far beyond the scope of what we believe the citizens of Nevada County can or should tolerate; and

Whereas, the proposal to open the mine has severely undercounted the number of private wells that will be impacted and potentially contaminated. Local well professionals estimate the number of affected parcels will be in the hundreds, not the handful identified by Rise Gold; and

Whereas, the potential economic losses to homeowners within the mineral rights area have been estimated to exceed \$5 million in reduced market value, even rendering many homes unsellable; and

Whereas, the jobs Rise Gold purports to be creating to stimulate the local economy will need to be filled by outside labor, as Nevada County no longer has a pool of trained underground miners; and

Whereas, Nevada County and California suffer from a severe housing shortage both in rental and sale properties, leaving imported workers unhoused locally; and

Whereas, the proposed energy use of the mine would be in direct and fatal conflict with our county's existing Energy Action Plan (EAP), which was unanimously approved by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors in 2019, and which directs an urgent countywide decrease in energy use, Rise Gold's proposal actually doubles the county's annual non-residential energy consumption; and

Whereas, Rise Gold's promises to inject money into the local economy may sound attractive, but the Economic Policy Institute Brief cited by Rise Gold actually shows that other industries can produce far better job numbers than mining, including eight industries we already have in Nevada County today; and

Whereas, the CEO of Rise Gold, Ben Mossman, is currently awaiting a retrial on Canadian Environmental Rights Act and Fisheries Act violations allegedly committed by his former company, Banks Island Gold Ltd., at the Yellow Giant gold mine site in British Columbia. Banks Island Gold faces 35 provincial and federal charges after enforcement officers found evidence that they were dumping waste from the Yellow Giant gold mine into the surrounding woods and wetland in 2015, and Mr. Mossman, the responsible party as CEO, did not report any spills; and

Whereas, California Judge Randall J. Newsome has said, “My experience as a U.S bankruptcy judge for 28 years leads me to believe that this company, now Rise Grass Valley (a wholly owned subsidiary of Rise Gold) is destined for financial failure.”

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, that the above recitals are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and shall serve as findings of the Nevada County Democratic Central Committee.

Be it Further Resolved, that the Nevada County Democratic Central Committee calls upon the Nevada County Board of Supervisors to deny any and all permits for opening and operating the Brunswick/Idaho Maryland Mine, thereby protecting the citizens of Nevada County and our environment from the potential damages, losses and hardships this proposal will cause.

Be it Further Resolved, that the Nevada County Democratic Central Committee opposes the proposal to allow Rise Gold to open the Brunswick/Idaho Maryland Mine and further opposes Rise Gold to operate in Nevada County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the membership of the Nevada County Democratic Central Committee at its meeting held on the 18th Day of November, 2021.

References: www.MineWatchNC.org

www.mynevadacounty.com/documentcenter/view/35183

www.mynevadacounty.com/2882/Application-Documents---Rise-Grass-Valley

<https://www.theunion.com/opinion/columns/randall-j-newsome-rise-gold-show-me-the-money/>

<https://www.todayinbc.com/news/court-assesses-15000-penalty-in-banks-island-mine-case/>

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