

We oppose reopening the San Juan Ridge Mine for the following reasons and urge all concerned citizens to participate in this process.

#### OUR WATER SUPPLY IS THREATENED

Nearly 300 parcels are within a one-mile radius of the mine, and some 600 are within two miles. Our friends and neighbors could lose their wells. Our water quality might be ruined. We might not be able to garden. It happened last time. San Juan Mining Corporation plans to pump up to 3.5 million gallons of water out of the ground every day. They may claim they will dig new wells if anything goes wrong - again. But we know from experience that these much deeper wells are more expensive to operate, usually yield less water, and may not meet safe drinking water standards. Loss of water will greatly diminish the ability of fire departments to fight fires. Last time, wells ran dry during a wet year. The mine application fails to address the mine's effects on the water table in drought years.

#### OUR JOBS ARE AT RISK

There are over 200 existing jobs at local businesses within a one-mile radius of the mine. Five of the largest Ridge employers border the mine or are within the critical one-mile radius. According to the Corporation's figures, an average of 40 jobs per year will be created over the fifteen-year life of the project. 200 jobs today versus 40 jobs tomorrow. That math doesn't add up.

#### OUR PROPERTY WILL LOSE VALUE

Property adjacent to the mine will decrease in value. Property values decreased by as much as 75% last time. Proposition 8 tax adjustment claims will cost the County tens of thousands of dollars in lost tax revenue. The mere existence of the mine application has likely already impacted property values.

#### OUR WATERSHED MAY BE HARMED

The discharge of millions of gallons a day cannot realistically be absorbed back into the water table. Like last time, the excess water will be flushed down Spring Creek, and as the mine moves west, into Shady Creek. Too much fast moving water flow and sediment could destroy fragile ecosystems and threaten protected species.

#### UNSTABLE TUNNELS MAY ENDANGER LIVES

Portions of the gravel in the mine are not stable. Last time the floor buckled and shifted nearly four feet in one day. Should an accident occur, Nevada County does not have the training or resources to respond to an emergency mine rescue.

#### THE MINE PUTS THE COMMUNITY AT RISK AND BENEFITS ONLY A FEW

This mine threatens our water, livelihoods, property value, watersheds, and health for the profits of a few wealthy investors. The application claims to bring jobs and taxes to Nevada County, but this mine will end up costing us much more than it can possibly provide.