

Dear San Juan Ridge property owners, SJRTA members and friends,

Some of you may have received a letter from Cranmer Engineering, dated July 31, 2013, Subject: San Juan Ridge Mine—Opportunity to Participate in 3rd Party Well Monitoring.

On Tuesday, August 6, San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association representatives met with the Nevada County Planning Department to question and clarify the meaning of this letter. In response, County Planning staff made it clear that the Cranmer letter and the proposed monitoring was not part of the EIR (environmental impact report) process and represents a private effort to collect data by the San Juan Mining Corporation. They confirmed that Cranmer is not in fact a “third party.”

SJRTA expressed concern that any monitoring efforts at this time should inform the EIR (that is, it should be pre-EIR monitoring.) Included in the EIR will be a monitoring plan that can be reviewed by the public. At that time it can be decided how extensive and what type of pre-operation, operational, or post operation monitoring should occur (if the project were to be approved.) All of this monitoring should occur after the EIR is approved. SJRTA will submit comments to the county on our recommendations for a pre-EIR monitoring plan during the week of August 12th.

The Nevada County Planning Department has agreed to issue a letter to San Juan Ridge property owners to clarify the type of monitoring that is appropriate for this stage in the application process and to tell us who will be in charge of collecting and analyzing the monitoring data. SJRTA supports efforts by the county to conduct pre-EIR monitoring and encourages property owners to allow well monitoring that is contracted through the county and is part of the official EIR process. Again, the well monitoring program being conducted by the mining corporation via Cranmer Engineering is NOT being contracted through the county and is NOT a part of the official EIR process. Please share this information with others. Thank you.

Steering Committee
San Juan Ridge Taxpayers Association