

From: elisaadler@frontiernet.net
To: Ferguson, Tracey
Subject: Community rights
Date: Saturday, March 16, 2024 8:25:41 PM
Attachments: [to Tracy Ferguson.pdf](#)

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Dear Tracy Ferguson,

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my comments (attached below) regarding US Copper's claim of vested rights.

Elisa Adler
Taylorsville, CA

March 16, 2024

Dear Ms. Ferguson,

The Planning Department's decision regarding US Copper's request for vested rights that would allow it to re-open the long-abandoned Engels and Superior mines -- without any studies or care for negative environmental impacts -- will shape the future of Plumas County, downstream communities, and our local residents still trying to rebuild their lives and homes in the aftermath of the Dixie Fire.

As people are saying, "Will this never stop?!" It seems there's one assault after the other, insult after injury, and before we have a chance to re-build Greenville, Canyon Dam, Indian Falls, and the individual homes lost, and the trauma in all our lives, we're being bombarded with the threat of an open pit mine, and the false claim that these mines are a continuing business, nothing new, and therefore unbothered to CEQA review.

My family, residents of Indian Valley since the 1970s, has visited both sites for their historic interest and never saw evidence of on-going operations. I remember great concern, however, when residents in a cluster of households downstream from those areas became ill with the same symptoms, and medical tests revealed toxic levels of substances commonly found in mining sites. Just when we might be trying to clean up old toxic areas, would County planners favor opening up new -- even greater -- sites that will become toxic?

This generation of Plumas County Planners has little or no memory of these places and occurrences, nor does it know the individual people whose lives and livelihoods would be devastated by US Copper mining in this area. Shouldn't we be favoring the work to protect and restore the forest and aquifers that have been so degraded, knowing they are essential to local as well as downstream users?

When so many people are trying to find some stable ground to stand on as well as the belief that re-building a living here is possible, I can only hope that you and others with whom you will be making this decision will choose carefully and wisely in favor of human, forest riparian and meadow communities over corporate interests. Plumas County planners owe nothing to US Copper but must be responsible to the land and the people it is your jobs to protect.

Please help to restore Plumas County residents' faith in County government and planning.

Sincerely,



Elisa Adler

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