

From: HUNTER, JODY [JHUNTER@bcas.hnet.bc.ca]  
Sent: Friday, June 16, 2000 10:02 PM  
To: Farquhar, Marcia EAO:EX  
Subject: public comment -- cariboo gold project

Box166,  
wells, bc  
VOK2R0

Please consider this my input into concerns centering around the purposed open pit gold mining operation in the Wells, BC area.

While I fully support Economic developement in the area of Wells and have no qualms regarding underground mining operations-in the Wells area, I am NOT in favor of open pit mining in the aforementioned location.

The purposed open pit site is within view of my home & I am not in favor of the noise, air & possible water pollution associated with such a venture.

There are absolutely no way of avoidance of the noise & view shed pollution & having briefly worked for Mosquitoe Creek, Hecla & Wayside International I know that any environmental restrictions or guidelines can be tossed to the wind, the second that the so-called "watch dogs" turn their backs on such operations.

I have seen safety measures deliberately ignored on more than one occassion & in speaking with other individuals involved in the mining industry, I know that the Economic mandate of mining companies is far more important, than the environmental & safety issues of the local populace. Unless you plan on having an environmental "police" officer on site at all times, the old adage "...when the cat's away, the mice with play...." will be very apt, in this area.

I didn't move to this area to be faced with noise & sight pollution, coupled with the always lurking possibility of having our watershed placed in jeopardy by "accidents".

Therefore I object very strongly to the operation of an open pit gold mine in the Wells area. While I would like very much to see the economy of Wells given a much needed lift, I refuse to believe that an open pit mine operation will be in my personal best interests. And since I can't have my cake & eat it too -- I am completely opposed to any such development.

Sincerely,  
Jody Hunter.