**Public Comment to the Nevada County Planning Commission, August 25, 2022 on Idaho-Maryland Mine reopening by Jim Bair[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Hi. I’m Jim Bair, business owner, resident of Nevada County for over 20 years, and former Grass Valley Planning Commissioner. I am sharing with you a presentation I made to the Supervisors (Aug. 9). It includes surprising findings in the County database called, *“All Draft EIR Comment Letters”* with over 28 hundred [2873] entries related to the proposed Rise Gold Mine.

There are 10 categories in the DEIR Comments database – see my included table. While reviewing the contents of each of the 10 categories, I have found that many entries are questionable.

Many of the so-called Comments are not Comments at all -- many are form letters with the same exact content. The most common entry, *“Project Support Cards”* were created by Rise Mine. They are from a bulk mailer to thousands of County voters, and 1132 were mailed prepaid to the County. They state support for the Mine and have **no** reference to the DEIR (see Supervisors Exhibit 1).

Other “Comment letters” are “Form Letters”, some with no content and others actually contain unique individual commentary. Form Letters A and B (see attached exhibits) were not intended to be Comments on the DEIR – most were generated by my *Stop the Mine Task Force*, signed and delivered by concerned citizens!

A third questionable category of “Form Letters [C]” is labeled *“Subject Line Only”*. Entries contain automatic emails faked to be **for** the Mine from individuals **against** the Mine (e.g., see Exhibit 5)--7 duplicates) (reported in *The Union* op eds), automatically reused content, duplicates, and emails from an out-of-town contractor “*oneclickpolitics.com”* (in Wash. D.C.).

We are continuing to find questionable entries in the database [of “all Draft EIR Comment Letters”]. I urge you to request the Planning Dept. to separate legal DEIR Comments per CEQU from fake and opinion pieces. This is critical because Rise Mine is counting all entries -- the fake, machine generated and empty entries -- for PR and investor appeals, and saying Nevada County is for the Mine.

Having been an expert witness in software corporation’s law suits, I believe this might be evidentiary.

I’ve given this comment and the Supervisors package to the County Clerk.

Thanks so much for your attention.

(Attached: **Exhibit 5**, **Seven**  **Duplicate Form Letters—slight differences, same signatory and: Jim Bair’s *Public Comment to the Nevada County Board of Supervisors,*** *9 pages)*

1. Leader, ***Stop the Mine Task Force,*** **Unitarian Universalist Community of the Mountains**, Grass Valley, CA 95945 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)