

From: **Bill Dvorak** <[bill@dvorakexpeditions.com](mailto:bill@dvorakexpeditions.com)>  
Date: Tue, Aug 24, 2021 at 5:17 PM  
Subject: The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining & Safety @ Union Milling decision!  
To: <[drms\\_info@state.co.us](mailto:drms_info@state.co.us)>  
Cc: <[smudge@co.lake.co.us](mailto:smudge@co.lake.co.us)>, <[kmarcella@co.lake.co.us](mailto:kmarcella@co.lake.co.us)>, <[jfiedler@co.lake.co.us](mailto:jfiedler@co.lake.co.us)>

**Attention: Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety:**

Comment letter attached in regards to the proposal by a company called Union Milling to begin using sodium cyanide in its processes. This would affect the Arkansas River downstream for many reasons and the livelihood of outfitters like myself and others. **Please accept the attached signed letter of comment to present** in your considerations of this proposed use of chemical sodium cyanide solution.

*"The Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety is extending its review of Union Milling's application to use a sodium cyanide solution at the Leadville Mill. Although the application is not slated for a decision until October, local residents have expressed concern with the operation."*

Sincerely,

*Bill Dvorak*

**DRMS RECEIVED:  
8/25/2021**

**Dvorak Expeditions**

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August 23, 2021

To whom it may concern  
[mailto:drms\\_info@state.co.us](mailto:drms_info@state.co.us)  
RE: **Union Milling**

*"In Leadville, where Union Milling company has applied to use sodium cyanide in its processes. The mill is immediately adjacent to the Leadville Sanitation District finishing pond, which drains into the Arkansas."*

As a 37-year river and fishing outfitter on the Arkansas River I have grave concerns about the use of sodium cyanide upstream of where we operate and make our living. I was here for the California Gulch and Yak tunnel spills in the 80's where most of our fish and invertebrates were killed.

The Arkansas now has the greatest amount of ***Gold Medal fishing water in the state***, about 102 miles, and is the most popular whitewater river in the country. A spill from this mine would devastate the economies of Leadville, Buena Vista, Salida, Cotopaxi, and Canon City. I urge you to deny their request for these reasons.

Very Concerned,

*Bill Dvorak*

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cc: *Lake County Board of Commissioners.*  
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