

From: [Kevin Welner](#)
To: [Cunningham, Michael](#)
Subject: Gold Hills Minerals -- Bueno Mine -- Jamestown
Date: Monday, May 07, 2012 8:55:34 AM

Good morning, Mr. Cunningham

Please accept this public comment concerning the above-referenced prospecting permit application.

Like most, if not all, residents of Jamestown, I live within a mile of the proposed prospecting operation.

My impression in reading the submitted documents and in attending a public meeting with the project manager and the geologist is that the GHM approach is to take full advantage of mining-friendly laws. That is, they are vowing to comply with all laws regarding noise, water, pollution, etc. That is, by definition, a bare minimum -- it's what they're required by law to do. It may also be all that GHM need to assert in order to have its application approved. For residents, however, it's neither comforting nor satisfactory. GHM is clearly undeterred by, and unresponsive to, the reality that this mine is located in a (very) quiet and precarious residential area.

To clarify, we live in a fragile area in terms of our water supply and our risk of forest fire. Promises to comply with the law or to be wary of forest fire risks offer us no more assurance than similar promises that, in the past, have preceded very real damage.

Similarly, acts that disturb the quiet are impossible to ignore. Jamestown is located in a canyon. When a resident across town puts on a new roof, for instance, the sound of the work echos throughout town. It's the nature of where we live.

I am not qualified to weigh in on specific compliance issues. I am writing only because I think it important for regulators to understand the context of this application and to ask that you take whatever actions are within your power to protect us from what feels like an uncontrollable assault by this company.

I thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance.

Very truly yours,
Kevin Welner