

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF EL DORADO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES January 9 1984

The Board convened in a meeting continued from January 3, 1984. Present: Supervisors Robert E. Dorr, Patricia R. Lowe, W. P. "Dub" Walker, Joseph V. Flynn, and Thomas L. Stewart. Dixie L. Foote, Assistant Board of Supervisors Clerk, was also present. Chairman Lowe presided.

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The purpose of the meeting was to continue the public hearing on the Appeals filed by Attorney James D. Zupancic on behalf of Bruce Ashwill; Kenneth R. Stemmle, Coordinator - Mother Lode Alliance; and Jeff Freitag and Janice Marques on the Planning Commission's granting of Special Use Permit No. 83-48 to Gold Fields Mining Corporation to allow the establishment of mineral exploration operations on approximately 1,000 acres zoned Estate Residential Ten-Acre, Residential Agricultural Forty-Acre, and Exclusive Agricultural in the Shingle Springs, Diamond Springs, El Dorado, and Latrobe areas.

Mr. Paul Moganson, Manager of Special Projects for Gold Fields Mining Corporation, was present and reviewed the mineral exploration program planned for the subject area, and introduced the 12-minute video tape display which addressed issues and questions raised by opponents.

Additionally, the following representatives of Gold Fields Mining Corporation were present and spoke on behalf of same: Collon Kennedy, assistant attorney and land manager, who responded to the appellants' challenge of the special use permit application; Jim Buntin of Brown, Buntin and Associates, acoustical consultants, who provided an objective review of noise impacts; George Wheeldon, consulting geologist, who spoke to the issue of ground water, wells, etc.; Gary Uphoff, who spoke to the issue of surface water; Tom Gast of Environmental Management Services Company, who provided an overview of State and County agencies that reviewed the project application; and Mike Petersen, attorney representing Gold Fields Mining Corporation, who spoke to the fundamentals of applicable laws regarding the special use application, and summarized said Corporation's presentation.

The following people were present and spoke in favor of the mineral exploration proposed by Gold Fields Mining Corporation: Jane Schlappi, who submitted her study on the validity of signatures on the petitions of opposition submitted by Mother Lode Alliance; Doug Ketron, mining engineer living in Volcano, who spoke to the issue of new home buyers' rights vs. miners' rights; Aunita Crowley, resident of Sacramento and daughter of one of the men who opened one of the mines in the subject area in 1920, and whose family has been paying taxes on the property since the mine closed in the 1940's and still owns a share of the mineral rights; Janet Morgan, Shingle Springs resident, who stated that mining activities have not decreased property values in Shingle Springs; Stanley Wells, attorney representing the Big Canyon Mine and Cattle Company, lessor of 600 acres to Gold Fields Mining Corporation, and whose owners have the most at stake here; George Varozza, Shingle Springs resident; Henry Meyer, Director of Mother Lode Miners Association, representing Mr. and Mrs. Richardson who own property in the subject area; Charles Livingston, resident of Iowa Hill, a miner for 47 years, and who submitted petitions in support of the mineral exploration which were signed by 385 El Dorado County residents; Vivian Heekan, owner of Crystal Gold Mine; Richard Lear, operator and investigator of mining operators; Walter Larsen, resident of the project area; Doyle Burkett of Kelsey; Bernie Ritscher, Shingle Springs resident; Paul Bailey, Placerville resident representing the Mother Lode Miners Association who spoke to the importance of mining to tourism in El Dorado County; and Ruth Graham, resident of Sacramento County who owns property in the project area.

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The following people were present and spoke in opposition to the proposed mineral exploration by Gold Fields Mining Corporation: Jan Thomas, who spoke to the possible ill effects of long-term noise pollution, and pointed out that the new home owners in the project area paid high prices for their homes and pay high taxes on them as well; Michael Stemmler, Shingle Springs resident who stated mining would set El Dorado County back 120 years; and Alice Alspktor, Shingle Springs resident, who advised she is concerned about noise.

The appellants were advised by the Chairman that they would be allowed a total of 30 minutes to rebut Gold Fields Mining Corporation's presentation, however, the hour being late, the Board would not make its decision this date. Appellant Jeff Freitag, and Barbara Ashwill (speaking for appellant Bruce Ashwill) stated they preferred to offer their rebuttals at the time the Board plans to make its decision. Appellant Kenneth R. Stemmler agreed, however, stated they wished to have their noise consultant, Peter Klaveness, rebut this evening's testimony regarding noise, at this time. Mr. Klaveness did so, speaking for seven minutes.

The Chairman then directed that this hearing be continued to Tuesday, January 17, 1984, at 3:00 p.m., for rebuttals by the other appellants, and any closing comments that representatives of Gold Fields Mining Corporation wish to make.

APPROVED:

Patricia R. Lowe
PATRICIA R. LOWE, Chairman

ATTEST:
DOLORES BREDESON, County Clerk
and ex officio Clerk of the Board

By *Dijiah Foote*
Deputy Clerk