LEMHI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
206 COURTHOUSE DRIVE
SALMON, ID 83467
208-756-2815 X 1667
LYNN D. BOWERMAN, Chairman
LEAH MADSEN
KIM CAYWOOD

August 12, 2024

Troy Saffle, Regional Administrator
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
900 N Skyline, Suite B
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

RE: Gilmore Petition Transmittal

Dear Troy:

On July 22, the Lemhi County Board of Commissioners received a petition concerning potential actions your agency, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), may consider at the historic Gilmore townsite. The petition encourages DEQ and the other federal and state agencies to cease any efforts related to potential National Priority Listing (NPL), soil removal actions or dust suppression. We reviewed the petition and its contents. We chose to review it and transmit to DEQ for consideration. It is enclosed with this cover letter.

We appreciate the efforts of DEQ at Gilmore, however we support the interests of our local community as well. As a result, we offer the following suggestions for future interactions at Gilmore:

- Actively consider the wishes of the petitioners as outlined in the petition;
- Express to federal and state agencies the local resistance to NPL actions;
- Continue providing information and technical support to individual landowners interested in minimizing any risk at their private property in Gilmore;
- Establish informational kiosks or displays on State or BLM managed land about the history of Gilmore, the threats of contamination and safety information about historic abandoned mines;
- Regularly update Lemhi County on any potential actions under consideration by other agencies such as Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Idaho Department of Lands, EPA or ATSDR, etc.

Contact us at any time concerning Gilmore activities or other areas where the County and DEQ overlap jurisdictions.

Thank you

Sincerely,
Lemhi County Board of Commissioners

Lynn Bowerman, Chairman
Leah Madsen, District #1
Kim Caywood, District #2

enclosure
c: James Whitaker

Whereas: The Department of Environmental Quality is contemplating establishing a Super Fund site at Gilmore Townsite to correct supposed exposure to lead and arsenic poisoning.

We the undersigned landowners of Gilmore petition the Department of Environmental Quality to withdraw their actions, as we feel the danger is insufficient to warrant this type of project.

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