

From: Roisin Kelly
Sent: Wednesday 27 April 2022 15:44
To: cdp <cdp@leitrimcoco.ie>
Subject: opposition to gold mining in Leitrim

To whom it may concern,

I am a writer from Co. Leitrim one of the most beautiful and untouched counties in Ireland. I oppose the mining of gold in the strongest possible terms.

At present, experts believe that the total amount of above ground gold in the world stands at just over 190,000 tons.

What possible reason is there, then, for granting a licence to extract more of this material at such huge cost to the environment?

There is a growing body of evidence that the mining of gold is an energy intensive and carbon heavy process that has the potential to negatively impact on a wide range of areas including water quality, landscape, agriculture, tourism and biodiversity amongst others.

The carbon heavy, energy intensive nature of the industry is also not compatible with the sustainable future that we are trying to create for this and following generations. The possible development of such an extractive industry would be incompatible with our obligations to urgently tackle climate change and the worst impacts of the climate emergency.

This matter has become all the more urgent with the granting of prospecting licenses for 47 townlands in the county. The Leitrim County Development plan should reflect the unanimous will of Leitrim County Councillors who have registered their opposition to gold mining.

<https://www.reuters.com/.../us-mining-gold-emissions...>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-africa-58119653>
<https://www.derrydaily.net/.../spotlight-exposes.../>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-53213878>
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/.../environmental.../>
<https://news.climate.columbia.edu/.../mining-pollution.../>
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5129257/>

Please oppose the granting of these licences.

Is mise le meas,

Roisin Kelly