

From:

Sent: Wednesday 27 April 2022 15:21

To: cdp <cdp@leitrimcoco.ie>

Subject: Gold Mining in Co. Leitrim

To whom it may concern,

I am deeply concerned by the decision that has led to Minister Eamon Ryan recently granting prospecting licenses for 47 townlands in the county.

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 since these prospecting licenses have been granted. The Leitrim County Development plan should reflect the unanimous will of Leitrim County Councillors who have registered their opposition to gold mining.

The 'direction of travel' for the policy - for the benefit of all - for a sustainable, equitable, low-carbon future surely makes this decision untenable.

Sincerely,

Stephen Weller

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mining-gold-emissions-idUKKBN2832ZN>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/av/world-africa-58119653>

<https://www.derrydaily.net/2021/10/27/spotlight-exposes-corruption-at-heart-of-dalradian-gold-mining/>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-53213878>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/environmental-disaster-gold-industry-180949762/>

<https://news.climate.columbia.edu/2019/03/15/mining-pollution-papua-new-guinea/>

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5129257/>