

From: Island View Riding Stables Ltd
Sent: Wednesday 27 April 2022 14:04
To: cdp <cdp@leitrimcoco.ie>
Subject: Gold mining in Leitrim a threat to tourism and water in the northwest

Leitrim County Development Plan

To whom it may concern,
I can't understand how in this day and age when Ireland is struggling to meet carbon reduction targets hold mining in Leitrim even gets considered.

Leitrim has the potential to be a leading county for eco tourism and biodiversity. Clean water and soil are the most valuable resource Ireland will have going forward in the face of climate change- why jeopardise it for a short lived industry that benefits very few, mostly imported workforce?

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.

Here are some links for your information:

<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/>

Best regards, Ursula Schweiger O Connor