

11.01.2021

Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Conditional Use Request  
Record Number 217-21-000436-PLNG



**CROOK COUNTY**  
**NOV 03 2021**  
**PLANNING DEPT**

- **3B Designation**
  - Knife River can mine with a 3B designation
  - It is only their desire to maximize their profits that will stop them from mining under this designation
  - Under the circumstances, 3B is a generous designation, and residents in the north valley strongly prefer that the permit request be denied
  
- **North Valley Community**
  - We randomly visited about 15 households on Puckett, Grimes, and Lamonta
  - Folks on these roads are very unhappy about the current mining situation and appalled at the idea of any mining company being granted a permit to mine adjacent to the current mining charade. They **do not want another mine** in a residential/farming community
    - There are fed up with the noise. Unlike city noise that tends to fade into the background, aggregate processing noise does not fade into the background because it is random and jarring
    - They are fed up with the dust which is unrelenting from mid-spring to mid-fall as the north valley gets breezes virtually every evening as the temperatures drop. There is simply no way to mitigate this issue due to poor water supply and allocations
    - They are very concerned about property values in the entire north valley as the new mine, like the current mine, will be situated next to a major thoroughfare going into the north valley. In other words, any potential property buyer who has an interest in north valley property will pass this mine before making a purchase decision
    - They are very worried about their residential water
    - While many do not have much faith the county will do the right thing and deny the permit request, a 3B designation is better than allowing Knife River to continue mining at this location with minimum accountability to the citizenry and Crook County
    - They were shocked that Crook County was even considering allowing more highly productive and coveted farmland to be stripped of its underlying Infrastructure
  
- **Knife River**
  - Knife River has said what they think this commission needs to hear to ensure they get a permit. In other words, they have an interest in looking right, yet...
  - It is well known that Knife River has a history of many violations at the current site
  - It is well documented that an excellent predictor of future behavior is past behavior. Despite all their, "we'll do better in the future" comments, if given a permit, it is highly

predictable they will continue to violate their mining agreements because the behavior exhibited by this company has been positively reinforced for decades and a change in their behavior would require a major corporate cultural shift

**Please do not grant them a permit to continue mining in our farmland, particularly in an area that has residential buildup. However, if granted, please keep the 3B designation**

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