



James Harris <jamesharris@utah.gov>

RE: Mary Ellen Gulch

1 message

Janene Judd [REDACTED]@comcast.net>

Mon, Aug 8, 2016 at 9:21 AM

To: jamesharris@utah.gov

Cc: [REDACTED]@gmail.com

I, Janene Judd, just joined Protect and Preserve American Fork Canyon. Today, I found out that Utah County Commissioners gave away parts of American Fork Canyon to Snowbird ski resort. Subsequently, preliminary work at the purchased site is unearthing toxic waste. I am a Utah County resident of 63 years, and I want all development efforts to stop until the EPA completes testing on noted toxic sites, publishes the results, and starts monitoring subsequent activity in the area. Snowbird owners must be mindful that they are tampering with a major water shed that feeds into a separate, water-hungry county. I am already concerned about water quality of Tibble Fork Reservoir and the streams that flow into and from it.

Snowbird needs to be monitored by the EPA as they deal with the mine tailings on the property they now own. There is evidence that Snowbird has done some exploring around the portal of a mine and released tainted water into our water supply. It is likely there are tens of thousands of gallons of tainted water behind a currently leaking earthen plug, potentially creating a huge hazard. And yet, the state seems to be ignoring the situation. We need the EPA--this should be a CERCLA project. The public should not be left with the burden of cleaning up the resort's toxic tailings as Snowbird's customers trample Utah County's wilderness and not even a penny of tax money coming our way.

No one is currently in charge of gathering data to protect watersheds from mine tailings and heavy metals in our canyons owned by Ski Resorts. They should not have a free pass to pollute!!

We need the EPA's expertise and oversight specifically in Mary Ellen Gulch.

Please help us with this situation and add my comments to the "Integrated Report."

Regards,
Janene M. Judd