
Letters to the editor

Response to Zephyr editorial

A recent op editorial from Canadian-based Zephyr Minerals asserts that the issuance of a mining permit for Dawson Gold Mine is a positive event for Cañon City and Fremont County.

In response, please consider the following possibilities: acid mine drainage, huge increases in heavy-duty ore trucks and other vehicle mine traffic, air pollution, 24-hour noise pollution from mining equipment and vehicles, pollution of ground and surface water, destruction of a mountainside that serves as a scenic backdrop to Cañon City, and the extensive redo of Temple Canyon Road to accommodate heavy 18 wheeler ore trucks as well as tourist passenger vehicles safely.

In the same article, Zephyr downplays the

wildfire danger. Consider that approximately 500 homes in Dawson Ranch, plus additional homes in adjoining areas, are directly downwind from the proposed mining activity. Combine that with frequent ferocious wind speeds, drought conditions, and Red Flag warnings.

As a reminder, here are just some of the more recent wildfires in our immediate vicinity: Natty; YMCA; Royal Gorge; Tallahassee; 5280; Wilson Creek; Quarry; Twin; and Table. On three different occasions, I have watched from my home in Dawson Ranch the flames approaching and evacuation orders just minutes away.

In considering the future of Zephyr mining at the Dawson Gold Mine, it is worthy to recognize the wisdom in the old adage — all that glitters is not gold.

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