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Oct 15, 2023

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Re: The Idaho-Maryland Mine Project Vested Rights Petition

Review and Analysis of the Rise Grass Valley Vested Rights Petition

Community Environmental Advocates Foundation (CEA Foundation) respectfully submits these comments regarding the Rise Grass Valley (Rise, Rise Gold) Vested Rights Petition (VR Petition) dated September 1, 2023. The legal analysis of the VR Petition by Shute, Mihaley & Weinberger LLC on behalf of CEA Foundation is addressed in a separate document.

Introduction

Due to the varying usage histories of the sites that are owned by Rise, our analysis looks at each site independently for information related to mining operations. For example, what were primarily a tailings and waste rock dump site when the mine shut down in 1956, the 56 acres owned by Rise adjacent to Idaho-Maryland Road and Centennial Drive are now identified as the "Centennial Industrial Site" and we review the aspects of some periodic aggregate processing of mine waste on that site. Similarly, what is currently identified as the "Brunswick Industrial Site" by Rise is composed of two sites in terms of their usage and history. Thus we review the portion from the Brunswick Mine (aka New Brunswick Mine) separately from the portion that was historically a sawmill (aka Bohemia Mill, Brunswick Sawmill). Only a portion of the original Idaho-Maryland Mine properties (circa 1954) have been purchased by Rise. Other parcels which are not owned by Rise and were integral parts of the Idaho-Maryland Mine circa 1954 are identified as well.

The Idaho-Maryland Mine ceased operations in 1956 and surface properties and assets were liquidated in 1957 or shortly after. The mine was allowed to reflood, and finally, the

mineral rights were sold off in 1960. There have been no mining operations in the Idaho-Maryland Mine since.

CEA Foundation's comments are based on information from Rise Gold Vested Rights Petition (VR Petition) and exhibits. Additional references that are not part of the VR Petition may be found in the Appendices of this document or as noted.

In the VR Petition, "Vested Mine Property" is a label defined by Rise, inconsistently applied to varying Rise properties that may or may not have been part of the mine and for which Rise hopes to win vested rights to mine. The actual determination of vested rights will be made by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors.

Document format notes:

- Notes {in gray text in Times New Roman font inside curly brackets {}} are copied directly from the Rise Gold Vested Rights Petition (VR Petition).} Exhibits and footnotes (e.g., ¹²³) are directly from the VR Petition.
- Rise Gold Vested Rights Petition Exhibits are referenced as Exhibits (e.g., Exhibit 23).
- Page numbers in CEA comments are based on the given entire document being cited, and may differ from the written page number in the text on the page.

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Idaho-Maryland / Centennial Site History

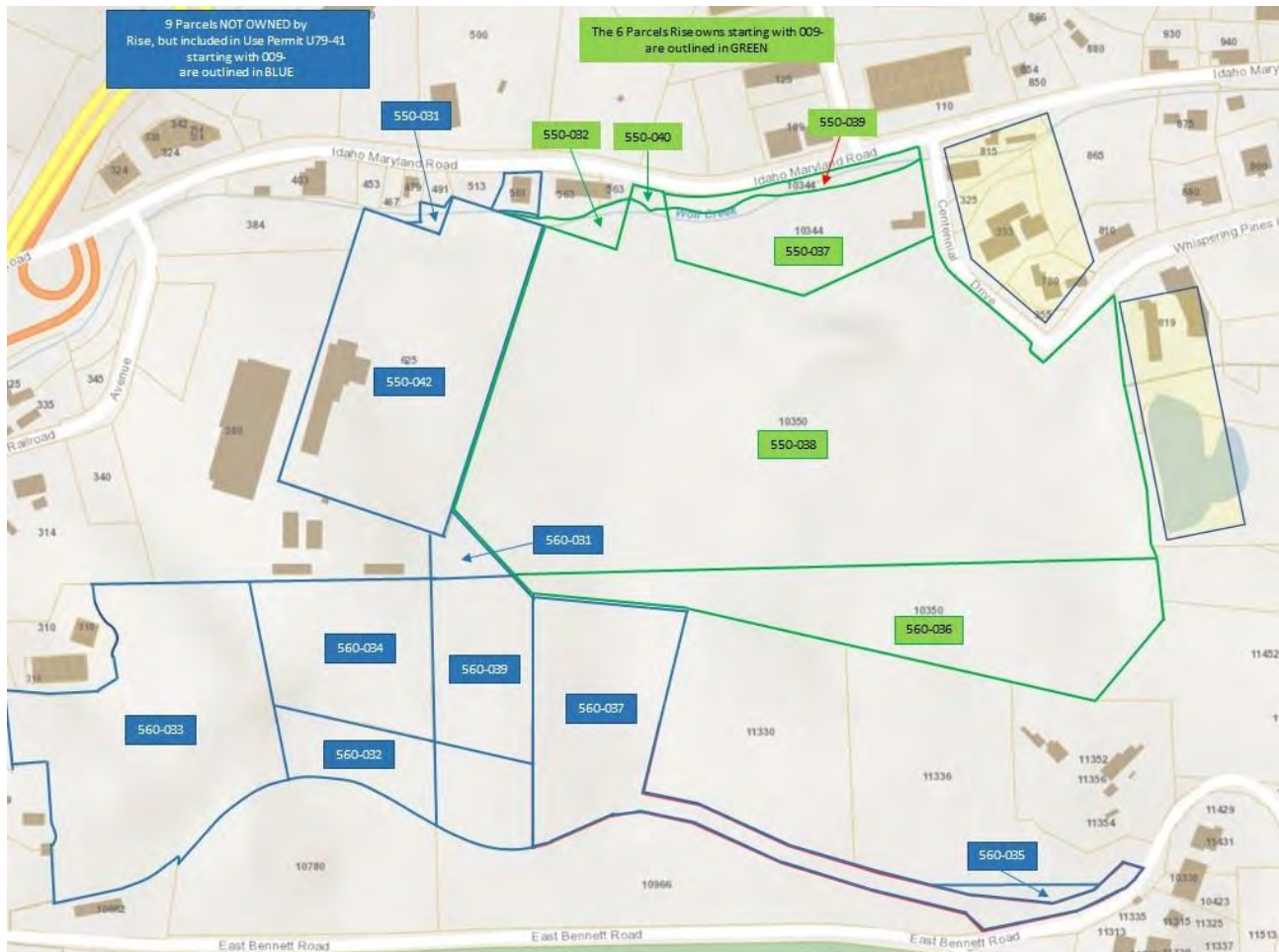
Rise does not own all of the original Idaho-Maryland Mine (Centennial Site). The locations of the Idaho Shaft headframe, Idaho Shaft hoist house, Old 20-stamp mill, New mill and cyanide plant, and the Round Hole shaft (also known as Idaho 2) are on parcels not owned by Rise. The Idaho-Maryland Mine processing facilities were all located east of the Centennial Drive alignment, and the Round Hole shaft is located in the north-east corner of the Whispering Pines Business Park.

The 56 acre “Centennial Industrial Site” that Rise does own was used for dumping the tailings and waste rock, and some lumber storage. No ore processing facilities were on the 56 acre site.

Overall, the key mining components existed on parcels not owned by Rise.

(See Items 1, 2, 3 and 4 in Appendix A for maps with historic details. Also see Rise “IMM-Vested-Rights-Petition—Appendix-A—F”, AppendixE (pg80), starting with Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation. Exhibit E notes the “*Idaho 2 (round) shaft*” and on the next page “...*the Idaho 20-stamp mill operated steadily*”.) Rise also does not own all the parcels that were included in the 1979 U79-41 Use Permit (those parcels highlighted in **BLUE**). Note: Parcels 09-550-039 and 09-550-040, owned by Rise, are not included in the U79-41 use permit application.

Centennial Site Parcels



Map Key

- All Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) start with 009- (e.g., 550-037 is APN 009-550-037).
- The eight parcels outlined in **GREEN** are owned by Rise.
- The parcels outlined in **BLUE** were part of Use Permit Application U79-41, but are not owned by Rise.
- The Idaho-Maryland Mine processing facilities, highlighted in **YELLOW**, were east of the land owned by Rise.
- The 56 acre “Centennial Industrial Site” that Rise does own was only used for dumping the tailings and waste rock and some lumber storage.
- Parcels 09-550-039 and 09-550-040, owned by Rise, were not included in the U79-41 use permit application.

Notes - Centennial Site Names: The 56.41 acre Centennial Industrial Site is also known as the Idaho Site, the Idaho Land, Idaho-Maryland Mine Property/Project, Idaho-Maryland Mine, I-M Mine, Idaho-Maryland/Centennial Site, Centennial Site and the Idaho-Maryland. See Page 2-4 (pg19) , Page 4-17 (pg39), Page 6-2 (pg60) of the 6/1/2017 “I-M_Tech_Report.pdf” prepared for Rise Gold by Greg Kulla, Pgeo. from Amec, Foster, Wheeler at https://www.risegoldcorp.com/uploads/content/I-M_Tech_Report.pdf

Notes - I-M_Tech_Report.pdf:

- Page 3-1 (pg20): Note the author’s disclaimers of responsibility for: All Mineral Rights information, Surface Rights information, and Royalties and Agreements information, which was provided by Mitchell Chadwick on 05/31/2017.
- Page 4-1 (pg23) “*The Idaho-Maryland Property...comprises approximately 93 acres...surface land*”. 93 acres includes ~56 acres at Centennial Site and 37 acres at Brunswick Site. It does not include the ~82 acres at the Mill Site.
- In 2017, Rise does not own the 82 acre Mill Site, which was a stand-alone sawmill from 1957 until 1991, then abandoned until 2017.

Centennial Site History and Comments

1955 In the Idaho-Maryland Mine, all mining and milling of gold was discontinued. Only some tungsten mining was taking place. [Gold in Quartz, The Legendary Idaho Maryland Mine, pg246, Jack Clark, 2005]

1956 The Brunswick Mine was closed.* On September 25, 1956, tungsten mining was halted and the mine was allowed to refill up to the 1450 level. Surface plant was sold to Oro Lumber Co. This included the processing mill, cyanide plant, headframe, hoists, compressors, and several buildings. *"In addition, the California Division of Industrial Safety ordered the corporation to cease mining in close proximity to the Union Hill mine, due to the danger of flooding the Brunswick."* [Clark, pg248]

*Note the IM Mine consisted of acquired mines: Idaho, Maryland, Brunswick, etc. Major regions of the IM mine were identified by their original names.

"All gold mining operations in the Grass Valley mining district ceased in July 1956" [Clark, pg252]

Note: much of the text from Clark is included in ("IMM-Vested-Rights-Petition—Appendix-A—F", Appendix C,) but various pages, including pg249-263 at the end of the book were omitted.

1957 *"After the mine closed, the salvage crew continued removing equipment from underground."* The mine was allowed to completely re-flood. Beginning on May 21, 1957, everything was liquidated in a 2 day auction. [Clark, pg252]

1964 VR Petition from Footnote ⁴²⁴: Exhibit 231: Centennial site *"In 1964 or 1965 there was a rock crusher on one of the Dumps of the Idaho-Mine Property , for about four months - Since then people have been coming in and taking rock without permission. That is why I am selling what rock is left.(signed by owner Ghidotti)"*

1979 Use Permit U79-41: (All data re: U79-41 is for the "Centennial Industrial Site". Not related to the Brunswick Site, Mill Site or sawmill) An application by North Star Rock Products Inc. for aggregate processing and sales by reprocessing mine waste at the former Idaho-Maryland Mine tailings dump, now called the "Centennial site". **No ore mining. Note that the IMM mine access tunnels are not on this property.**

Per Staff report Environmental Setting, from VR Petition Exhibit 251 pg29: *"Historical Aspects ...the mine closed in 1956 due to excessive operating costs."*

From VR Petition Exhibit 251 pg29: *"Existing Uses - The project site is unused except for the occasional removal of rock and sand wastes by the owner of the property. Lumber is also stored on the property."*

VR Petition from Footnote ⁴²⁸: Exhibit 232: 10/12/1979 letter from Marion Ghidotti to Planning Dept. Rock crushing at five Centennial parcels from 1967 thru 1979. Confirms no activity between 1957 when the mine shutdown and 1967 except sawmill with lumber selling to other customers. The 5 Assessor Parcel Numbers (APNs) noted in Ghidotti letter (09-550-13, 09-550-14, 09-550-15, 09-560-02, 09-560-08) translate to the following 13 current APNs (Appendix B): Owned by Rise: 09-550-032, 09-550-037, 09-550-038, 09-560-036, NOT OWNED by Rise: 09-550-031, 09-560-032, 09-560-033, 09-560-034, 09-560-035, 09-560-037, 09-560-038, 09-560-039, 09-550-042. Note: APNs 09-550-039 and 09-550-040, owned by Rise, are not included in the U79-41 use permit application.

VR Petition Exhibit 251, Use Permit Application. Planning Dept notes APNs on bottom of form: 09-550-13 14, 15 and 09-560-02, 08 (these are consistent with Ghidotti 10/12/1979 letter). Second page in Exhibit 251, a 01-10-80 memo from “Sharon” (Sharon Boivin, Nevada County Planning Dept). The bottom of memo states “*This permit is being processed as an existing non-confirming use.*” See note in 1980 section below, re: definition of “existing non-conforming use”.

1980 {The County grants Use Permit U79-41 authorizing the harvesting, crushing, screening, and sale of existing mine rock and tailings at the Centennial Industrial site.⁴⁴⁴ The County’s Staff Report states that the waste rock and tailings were previously deposited onto the site as part of the mining operations of the Mine, and that such rock and tailings had been crushed on the site by a rock crusher in 1964 or 1965. Notably, the County recognizes mining operations at the Property as an existing nonconforming use – i.e., a vested right.⁴⁴⁵}

The Rise I-M Technical Report, published by Amec, Foster, Wheeler on 6/1/2017 lists history by year, including significant events as they occur. There is no entry in the Technical Report for 1980 or U79-41.

Rise states “the County recognizes mining operations at the Property as an existing nonconforming use – i.e., a vested right.⁴⁴⁵” (VR petition, pg45) There is no reference to any claim or petition for vested rights in any of the U79-41 documentation or the later, associated, Use Permits.

In the specific example of U79-41, an existing non-confirming use meant “you do not have a permit” for the activity that Ghidotti/North Star Rock had already been doing. The County elected to grant a Use Permit, bringing the operations into compliance.

VR Petition Exhibit 252, pg60, 02/20/1980 Planning Dept memo to Planning Commission, re U79-41. See bottom of page 1/top of page 2. The “non-conforming use” is the fact that “...owner has indicated that mine rock has been sold and taken from the property continuously since the mine closed, and so this use permit application is for expansion of an existing non-confirming use...” They were taking rock without a permit; therefore this request is to bring it into compliance and expand the use. This is supported by dozens of Use Permit mitigation requirements. If the County was

acknowledging and formally recognizing Vested Rights, there would have been no need for the Use Permit or the mitigation requirements.

Ghidotti didn't own the property until 1963. There was no activity from 1956 when all the equipment was sold and whenever Ghidotti claims tailings were moved or sold.

See 11/15/1979 letter from Marion Ghidotti to Sharon Boivin at Planning Dept, From VR Petition Exhibit 232: "*In 1964 or 1965 there was a rock crusher on one of the Dumps of the Idaho Mine property, for about four months...*". Statement that "*mine rock has been sold and taken from the property continuously since the mine closed...*" is incorrect and/or FALSE, see below.

From VR Petition Exhibit 232: 10/12/1979 from Marion Ghidotti to Planning Dept, declaration that for parcels noted "...mine rock wastes and mill sand has continuously been removed...from 1967 to 1979." Years specified by Ghidotti are not "...*since the mine closed...*" The owner (Ghidotti) is also acknowledging the mine was closed.

Appendix C: Pictures showing commercial development northeast, east and south of the proposed project, including old mine headframe. Confirms major parts of the original property have long been "abandoned" to other commercial uses.

From VR Petition Exhibit 251: pg23: Site Plan map prepared by North Star Rock which notes the locations of "Rock Processing Plant #1" and "Rock Processing Plant #2". Rock Processing Plant #1 is on Parcel# 009-550-042 which is not owned by Rise.

From VR Petition Exhibit 251: pg23: Site Plan map prepared by North Star Rock. Note "**Abandoned Mining Drift**" pointing to the area of "*Mine Tailings*" that spreads across parcels owned by Rise.

VR Petition Exhibit 251: Surface Mining Reclamation Plan prepared by Environalysis, October 1979, for North Star Rock, pg49 "*The underlying ground will be exposed slowly and reseeding will take place as new areas come to light.*" No underground activity planned, they are crushing old tailings on the surface. Also, Erosion Control Plan, pg55 "*Cross-section profiles...showing elevations and depth of the rock waste material...should **determine the depth of rock waste material, and no material beyond determined depth should be removed.***"[emphasis added]

Clearly, this operation was only salvaging mine waste.

1983 {Marian Ghidotti's estate is settled in 1983 — three years after her death.⁴⁵³}

1985 U85-025 February 1985 Amendment to Use Permit U79-41, prepared for North Star Rock by Foothill Planning Services. From Appendix D see paragraph 2, pg3 "*...proposed amendment to the existing use permit is resultant from two primary factors (1) **the mine tailing resource on site has been totally depleted...***" [emphasis added]

The U85-025 permit is for processing imported rock, as there are no more surface tailings rock from the mine.

1988 {From August 1988 through April 1989, Argo Associates excavated 7,756 tons of tailings from the eastern portion of the site and transported the tailings off-site for gold recovery at Homestake Mining Company near Clear Lake, California...}

1989 The USEPA Identification Number for the Site is CAN000908495. According to the Envirostor database (DTSC, 2019 Sept), the site was identified as an abandoned mine in 1989. (https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=29100007)

1992 {"Application for Exploration and/or Mining Permit".⁴⁸⁰ The County grants Use Permit U92-037 in December, thus guaranteeing the continuation of mining activities at the Mine Property.⁴⁸¹}

Use Permit U92-037. See VR Petition Exhibit 277. Application for Use Permit for Mining from North Star Rock Products. Section 6 of the application states "*Expand existing rock harvesting...this is a surface quarry.*" [emphasis added]

"...thus guaranteeing the continuation of mining..." is **MISLEADING**. Use Permit U92-037 is for expansion of the existing surface quarry. Section 7 specifically states "**Aggregate only: no precious mineral extraction**". [emphasis added]

1993 {The BET Group begins receiving substantial amounts of annual royalty and option payments for the Mine.⁴⁸⁸ The payments continue until 2012.⁴⁸⁹}

Emperor Gold acquired options for the Idaho-Maryland/Centennial Site, the Brunswick Site, and mineral rights, with the intent to obtain exploration permits.

Payments to BET were not made in 2000 and 2001, but then resumed in 2002.

1994 1994-2013: VR Petition references for these years apply only to the Brunswick Site and the Mill Site. **No production mining activity at the Centennial Site during this period.**

2017 Rise acquires the Centennial site and the Brunswick Mine site. In May 2018 purchases the Brunswick "Mill Site" from SPI.

The site of the main Idaho-Maryland Mine processing facilities to the East of the Centennial site (east of Centennial Drive alignment and on either side of Whispering Pines) are not acquired. I.e. The sites of the Idaho Shaft headframe, Idaho Shaft hoist house, Old 20-stamp mill, New mill and cyanide plant and the Round Hole shaft (also known as Idaho 2) are on parcels not owned by Rise. These were an integral part of the Idaho-Maryland Mine, were sold decades ago, and have long been the site of various commercial businesses.

2019 Rise Grass Valley submits a Use Permit Application to open the Idaho-Maryland Mine. No claim of vested rights was submitted.

2019 Aug 13 Rise signs a Voluntary Agreement with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to clean up the toxic mine waste on the Centennial site.

Sept 26 In recognition of the Voluntary Agreement with the DTSC, the US EPA issues a conditional deferral to Rise regarding pending Superfund designation.

Brunswick Sawmill Site History



Figure 4-5:
Mill Site Property, Adjacent
the Brunswick Shaft



The Brunswick Industrial Site, as identified by Rise Gold, includes the “Brunswick Site” at 37 acres and the “Mill Site” at 82 acres, totaling 119 acres. See Page 4-17 (pg39) of the 6/1/2017 Technical Report (“I-M_Tech_Report.pdf”) prepared for Rise Gold by Greg Kulla, Pgeo. from Amec, Foster, Wheeler at https://www.risegoldcorp.com/uploads/content/I-M_Tech_Report.pdf

The Brunswick Land, purchased by Rise in 2017, consists of (APNs) 009-630-037 and 009-630-039.

The Mill Site Land, purchased by Rise in 2018, is often called the Brunswick Mill Site, Brunswick Mill Site Land, Brunswick Sawmill, the Bohemia Sawmill or the Mill Site, and is comprised of (APNs): 006-441-003, 006-441-004, 006-441-005 and 006-441-034.

Notes I-M_Tech_Report.pdf:

- Page 4-1 (pg23) “*The Idaho-Maryland Property...comprises approximately 93 acres...surface land*”. 93 acres includes ~56 acres at Centennial Site and 37 acres at Brunswick Site. It does not include the ~82 acres at the Mill Site.
- In 2017, Rise did not own the 82 acre Mill Site, which was a stand-alone sawmill from 1957 until 1991, then abandoned until the present except for various community uses.

See Rise Gold Vested Rights Petition (VR Petition), Exhibit 205, for EDR Chain of Title for Mill Site APNs 006-441-003 and -005. The legal description for APN's 006-441-04 and -34 are described in the Legal Description section of the Chain of Title as “Parcel Two” and “Parcel Four”.

The Mill Site Land was sold by the Idaho-Maryland Mine in 1956 and was operated as a stand-alone sawmill for 35 years from 1956 until 1991 under various owners. The Mill Site sawmill was abandoned in 1991 with remaining structures demolished in 2003 [Exhibit 295]. Rise purchased the Mill Site from Sierra Pacific Industries in 2018.

The 82 acres of the 119 acres that Rise calls “The Brunswick Industrial Site” is the Mill Site. CEA Foundation found no evidence to date of mining or mine processing facilities on that site. Rise is claiming the Mill Site was part of the “Vested Mine.” See Appendix E for a Rise Grass Valley overview map of the Mill Site sawmill land in relation to the Brunswick site.

In addition to the questions about whether the sawmill could be considered part of the mining operations, it is noteworthy that it would constitute a significant expansion of mining operations to build Rise Gold's proposed processing facilities on this site, plus a new/expanded tailings pile on the south portion of this site.

Brunswick Sawmill History and Comments:

1921 {IMM Corp builds sawmill at the Idaho-Maryland site on the east side of Centennial Drive.}

This sawmill is part of the Idaho-Maryland Site and not part of the Brunswick Sawmill Site.

1945 {A small sawmill is constructed in the fall, located south of the Idaho-Maryland mill, near east Bennett Road.³³⁵ The existing sawmill located near the Idaho-Maryland shaft is converted into a carpenter shop.³³⁶ }

This sawmill is a replacement for the Idaho-Maryland sawmill. Referenced quote at Footnote ³³⁵ from Clark 209 also says “*The sawmill was capable of furnishing lumber for mine use and lumber for sale.*” The Brunswick sawmill at the Mill Site was constructed in 1946 and operational in 1949 (conflicting historical notes).

1946 {...The Idaho-Maryland sawmill is upgraded to a capacity of 40,000 board feet per shift.³³⁸ The Brunswick sawmill is also constructed and in operation “to cut timber for the mine.”³³⁹}

See 1945 notes. Letter at Footnote ³³⁹: Exhibits 159 and 162: both confirm lumber for commercial sales and for use in the mine.

1948 {...the sawmill continues to run and cuts 12,201,546 feet of lumber.³⁵¹}

From Footnote ³⁵¹: Exhibit 166: SF Examiner 03/30/48 “*The company’s sawmill operations last year resulted in 12,201,456 feet of lumber cut. Of this amount, **1,928,182 feet were delivered to the mine and the remainder sold.***” [emphasis added] 12.2M feet of lumber is accurate but misleading. Only 16% of sawmill operations were used exclusively for the mine.

1949 {The Idaho-Maryland sawmill, which produces 40,000 board feet per day and was constructed to provide lumber to subsurface mining operations for the Mine, is leased to Orris Donohaugh, and the New Brunswick sawmill, which produces 10,000 board feet per day, is leased to Mario and Lawrence Personeni.³⁵⁷}

MISLEADING. Footnote ³⁵⁷: Clark at pg224 actually says “*The Idaho-Maryland sawmill, capable of producing 40,000 board feet per day, was placed in operation in May 1949 under a lease agreement with Orris Donohaugh, ...*”

The Idaho-Maryland sawmill was located outside of the 56 acre “Centennial site” owned by Rise. **Before 1954**, both sawmills were leased to other parties. As noted above, re: comments at 1948, the mine consumed only 16% of sawmill output.

“...was placed in operation in May 1949...” is confusing but appears to be the Idaho-Maryland sawmill at Centennial. Earlier references to the Idaho-Maryland sawmill indicate original construction in 1921 and later replacement in 1946.

1954 {Several surface properties are sold, with reservation of mineral rights, as well as reservation of rights necessary to facilitate mining operations, including roadways and maintenance.³⁷⁶}

1955 {Several more surface properties are sold.}

1956 {The Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation also sells several surface properties, including the Brunswick sawmill site, to Milton and Ina Balmain, but again reserves the mineral estate.⁴⁰⁰}

IMM Corporation does not own the Brunswick Mill Site property after 12/03/1956 and the sawmill runs as a stand-alone business until 1991.

See first page of this document for Mill Site parcel details.

See Footnote ⁴⁰⁰: Exhibit 205: Chain of Title Report, pg133, Deed to Milton and Ina Balmain for Brunswick sawmill. And Exhibit 206: Copy of Deed.

1958 {The County grants a use permit (U58-15) authorizing operation of the Brunswick sawmill to Summit Valley Pine Mill, Inc.⁴⁰⁸ The permit has no conditions and does not expire.⁴⁰⁹}

See Footnote ⁴⁰⁹: Exhibit 215: Use Permit U58-15. Handwritten APN is 6.44.02 was converted to APN 006-441-003 which is part of the Mill Site. (Appendix F).

1958 {On March 13th, the Corporation’s Board of Directors decides to transfer the surface (to a depth of 250 feet) of a portion of the Mine Property, while reserving appropriate mill site areas...but reserves the “mineral rights and 70 acres around three mine shafts.”⁴¹³ The reserved area covers the New Brunswick shaft, the Old Brunswick shaft, the Union Hill shaft, and the Brunswick mill site.⁴¹⁴}

Footnote ⁴¹⁴: Exhibit 220: pg209, Survey by T.H. McGuire & Son. **FALSE**; “*reserved area*” includes only one of the Mill Site APNs (006-441-034). None of the 3 shafts referenced in McGuire survey are on the Mill Site. See 1956, Mill Site sold to Milton and Ina Balmain.

McGuire & Sons survey identifying Idaho-Maryland Mine Corp Brunswick Site includes areas of the Old Brunswick Site north of East Bennett Rd that are not owned by Rise. Parcels not owned by Rise that were part of the Old Brunswick Site in the 1959 McGuire survey are 009-581-016, 009-581-017, 009-581-018, 009-581-019, 009-581-053, all north of East Bennett Rd.

1958 {The County grants a use permit (U58-15) authorizing operation of the Brunswick sawmill to Summit Valley Pine Mill, Inc.⁴⁰⁸ The permit has no conditions and does not

expire.⁴⁰⁹}

From Footnote ⁴⁰⁸: Exhibit 215: Use Permit U58-15. Handwritten APN is 6.44.02. Per Assessors Office 09/15/2023 email (Appendix F) APN 6.44.02 was converted to APN 006-441-003 which is part of the Mill Site. Also see Exhibit 205, EDR Chain of Title.

- 1964 Use Permits U64-30 and U64-31: VR Petition: pg64, Footnote ⁵⁹³: Exhibit 366: first paragraph and in Exhibit 366, pg52. Exhibit 366: minutes from 05/10/2005 Board of Supervisor meeting.

Documents for Use Permits U64-30 and UP64-31 are not included in VR Petition and are included for convenience in Appendix G. References to SP76-10 and MSP90-002 are noted in Planning Staff comments shown in the 5/10/2005 minutes (see Exhibit 366, pg52), also Use Permits U64-30 and UP64-31 not included in VR Petition notes.

Brunswick Timber Products applies for Use Permit U64-30, an application for a “*planing mill on property owned by the applicant*” at the “*southwest corner of Brunswick and Union Hill Roads [now East Bennett Rd].*”

U64-31, an application by Brunswick Timber Products for a “*Lumber drying and storage yard*”, is another part of the same process as U64-30 for a Planing Mill. The map on last page of Appendix G (shown upside down) is the northeast corner of Brunswick and Greenhorn (then called Union Hill Rd). In this map, you can see APN 6-440-02 (which later became APN 006-441-003). The components listed in that parcel are clearly a sawmill. The Planning Commission (PC) on 9/18/64 denies the Use Permit stating “*The proposed use of land would be detrimental to the health, welfare and safety of the people living in the affected area.*” On 02/01/1965, the Board of Supervisors reversed the PC and approved the project with additional conditions. In 1965 Brunswick Timber Products receives approval to operate the planing mill but never stores logs on the northeast corner of Brunswick Rd and Union Hill Rd (now Greenhorn Rd).

- 1976 {...the Brunswick sawmill produces the lumber needed to construct a piping system for recycling wastewater from the wastewater pond to the log deck, and the water which is used is pumped from the Brunswick Mine.⁴³⁸}

Not Relevant: The use of water from the mine by a sawmill to keep their log deck wet had nothing to do with active mining.

The Brunswick Mill Site land, which includes the Brunswick sawmill, was sold in 1956 and was operated as a stand-alone sawmill for 35 years from 1956 until 1991

under various owners. E.g., See notes for year 1964. Rise purchased the Mill Site from Sierra Pacific Industries in 2018.

Footnote ⁴³⁸: Exhibit 249: Letter noted is from the then current owners of the Brunswick sawmill, the Brunswick Timber Products Corp. The mill was called the “Bohemia sawmill”.

None of the parcel’s noted in Footnote ⁴³⁷: Exhibit 248 re: Ghidotti estate are part of the Mill Site. The sawmill’s use of water from the mine and lumber from a sawmill next door as described by Rise above and at Footnote ⁴³⁸ have nothing to do with active mining.

1976 SP76-10: See Appendix H, Site Plan Application for the “*Log Storage Yard*” and to “*Move existing scaling platform.*”

The site plan change was approved. Then in 1976 Brunswick Timber Products Corp decided not to move the scaling platform (or not move it much) and not to change the log offloading entrance. It was a stand-alone sawmill and log yard having nothing to do with mining. Documents at Appendix H identifies APN 6-441-05 (current APN 006-441-005, which is the largest part of the Mill Site). The map shows APN 006-441-003 (referenced above as the location of sawmill components), APN 006-441-004 for the “Log Yard” and APN 006-441-005 (also part of the Mill Site but usage not identified on this map). None of this activity is mining.

1983 {Marian Ghidotti’s estate is settled in 1983 — three years after her death.⁴⁵³}

None of the parcel’s noted in Footnote ⁴⁵³: Exhibit 248 re: Ghidotti estate are part of the Mill Site. **No mining activity from 1980 thru 1983 while the estate was being settled.**

1988 {The BET Group sells Lots 3 and 8 of BET Acres...}

From Footnote ⁴⁶³: Exhibit 262: beginning at pg152, 05/02/1989 proposal from Condor Earth Technologies, pg154, paragraph 2 “*Currently, the property is such that the 2750 acres of deeded mineral rights are protected by **only 37 acres of surface, the latter acreage centered at the New Brunswick Shaft. At the New Brunswick, the shaft is capped with a deteriorating concrete slab, the headframe is gone and the old ore bins are in questionable condition. Fortunately, the adjoining parcel is occupied by an active lumber mill and much of the formerly productive area of the mine is currently overlain by industrial development.***” [emphasis added]

The New Brunswick 37 acres (Brunswick Site) is not active AND the 82 acre “Mill Site” in the “adjoining parcel” is an “active lumber mill”.

1990 MSP90-002: See Appendix J, site plan relating to construction of a new 22,278 square foot “Sawmill Bldg” on the Bohemia, Inc. property at APN 006-441-003 (Mill

Site parcel) where existing sawmill buildings are located. Also APN 006-441-005 relating to “New Sawmill Building, Same Size, Purpose, and Capacity of Existing Bldg.”

See aerial photo at showing at least 6-8 sawmill buildings, log storage and parking along Brunswick Road. **Clearly a sawmill, not a mine.**

1993 {In February, Consolidated Del Norte relinquishes its lease on the Mine Property and in August, a mining lease and option to purchase agreement is executed with Emperor Gold Corporation.⁴⁸²}

From Footnote ⁴⁸²: Exhibit 279: Historical Notes on the Idaho-Maryland Mine (pg282). On 08/18/93 BET group leases 37 acres of surface rights and 2750 acres of mineral rights with option to purchase to EMPEROR GOLD. 03/10/94 Emperor Gold leases, from Sierra Pacific Industries, the “***adjacent old Brunswick sawmill site, consisting of about 80 [surface] acres and over 60,000 square feet of industrial buildings.***”

From Footnote ⁴⁸⁶: Exhibit 282: Board of Supervisors minutes 12/14/93. Refers to the site as “...*the old Bohemia Mill site.*” (pg313). Amended zoning applies to three of the four Mill Site properties, 06-441-03, -04, -05 as well as -29 and -30 (pg314). Mr. Dale Creighton, representing the owner, Sierra Pacific Industries, notes “...***the intent of [SPI is] to use the site for industrial purposes.***” [emphasis added]

The ~82 acre Mill Site was separate and distinct from the Brunswick Site. **There was no intent to mine. The Mill Site was a sawmill operation, not a mining operation.**

1994 {Emperor Gold enters into a lease agreement with an option to purchase the sawmill property, which was effective March 10, 1994.⁴⁹³}

From Footnote ⁴⁸²: Exhibit 279: 03/10/94 Emperor Gold leases, from Sierra Pacific Industries, the “***adjacent old Brunswick sawmill site, consisting of about 80 [surface] acres and over 60,000 square feet of industrial buildings.***” The ~82 acre Mill Site was separate and distinct from the Brunswick Site. **The Mill Site was a sawmill operation, not a mining operation.**

From Footnote ⁴⁹³: Exhibit 285: Lease and option to purchase surface rights to the “***Brunswick millsite...Parcel Nos. APN 6-44’ 03, -04, -05, -29 and -30...between Sierra Pacific Industries...as owner; and Emperor Gold...as lessee.***”

1995 {To facilitate exploration of the Mine, Emperor Gold obtains an option to purchase the Brunswick mill site.⁴⁹⁴}

From Footnote ⁴⁹⁴: Exhibit 286: Northern Miner 12/11/95: “***Except for a concrete silo and some old foundations, little is left of the huge Idaho-Maryland mining***

complex...To facilitate exploration at the mine site, Emperor acquired a 3-year lease and option-to-purchase on the nearby Brunswick mill site. The Brunswick asset includes 79.8 acres of surface rights (zoned industrial) and the top 200 ft. of mineral rights, as well as the Brunswick shaft, which will be used to dewater the mine."

The lease/purchase agreement was with Sierra Pacific Industries. The "Brunswick mill site" is the "Mill Site"...**a sawmill, not a mine.**

{In October, the County approves the Final Environmental Impact Report EIR94-003 on the proposed dewatering of the Mine.⁴⁹⁵}

1996 {Nevada County approves Emperor Gold's Use Permit Application U94-017 for Dewatering and Exploration of the Mine.}

1999 {Emgold Mining Corporation's lease with an option to purchase the sawmill property from Sierra Pacific expires on December 31, 1999.⁵⁰¹}

From Footnote ⁵⁰¹: Exhibit 286: See above notes for 1995, re: Exhibit 286. The "Brunswick mill site" is the "Mill Site"...**a sawmill, not a mine.**

2001 {The County grants an extension of Use Permit U94-017, which permits the dewatering of the Mine, to January 25, 2003.⁵⁰²}

From Footnote ⁵⁰²: Exhibit 291: pg377. Planning Dept and Planning Commission Use Permit approval letters. "*Emperor Gold controls the surface rights to 117 acres of contiguous property located southwest of the intersection of Brunswick Road and East Bennett Road. **This includes the 80 acre Bohemia Mill site.***" [emphasis added]

See notes at 1995 above, re: Exhibit 286. Property at ~82 acres includes all 4 parcels of the "Mill Site". Emperor negotiated a 3 year lease with option to buy from Sierra Pacific Industries who operated the site as the Bohemia Mill (sawmill).

2003 {...and the Old Bohemia Mill is torn down.⁵⁰⁵}

Footnote ⁵⁰⁵: Exhibit 295: 04/04/2003 The Union article notes three relevant items:
1) "*The remains of the old Bohemia Mill [sawmill] are being cut, cubed and cleared to make way for a possible business park and light industrial site.*",
2) "*...property owner Sierra Pacific Industries plans to develop a map for the site.*"
3) "*We're still in the formative stages,*" Ed Sylvester, president of SCO Engineering, said about plans that could include a business park and a light-manufacturing site."

Bohemia Mill was a sawmill, owned by Sierra Pacific Industries, not a mine, and **there is no evidence of an intention to develop the property as a mine.**

2017 {Rise Resources Inc. purchases the Vested Mine Property from the BET.}

A usage of the Rise label “Vested Mine Property” here refers in part to the purchase of the Brunswick Mine Site.

2018 {...and purchases the sawmill property from Sierra Pacific Industries for \$1,900,000 to facilitate “the exploration and future development of the Idaho-Maryland Gold Project. The Mill Site Property is located adjacent to the New Brunswick mine shaft. Prior to 1991, the Mill Site Property hosted a major commercial lumber mill and 55,000 ft2 of industrial buildings. All buildings have subsequently been removed.”⁵¹⁹}

The “*sawmill property*”, purchased on 05/23/2018, is a separate purchase with **no mining production at that site since 1956**. From 1956 when it was sold to the Balmain’s, until 1991 the Mill Site has been a sawmill. **From 1991 to the present, the Mill Site has remained unused** with the exception of temporary storage for various community projects. (E.g. PG&E equipment storage, senior wood program, emergency green waste facility).

Exploratory drilling 2017-2018 was performed on the Brunswick Mine Site, not the Mill Site.

2019 {Rise Gold News Release, May 17, 2019: “*The Rise Gold property adjacent to the New Brunswick shaft previously hosted a major commercial lumber mill and 55,000 ft2 of industrial buildings. All buildings have subsequently been removed.*”}

2023 {On May 11, 2023, the Nevada County Planning Commission recommends denial of the Idaho-Maryland Mine Project following a public hearing.⁵²⁴}

The vote was unanimous. The Planning Commission also recommended not to certify the EIR on a unanimous vote.

There are currently no mining operations on the Idaho-Maryland/Centennial, Brunswick Site or the Mill Site (sawmill).

Brunswick Mine Site History



Figure 4-5:
Mill Site Property, Adjacent
the Brunswick Shaft



The “Brunswick Industrial Site” (the name used by Rise) includes the “Brunswick Site” at 37 acres and the “Mill Site” at 82 acres, totaling 119 acres.

This document focuses on the history of the 37 acres of what is referred to as the “Brunswick Land” in the “I-M_Tech_Report.pdf”, Page 4-17 (pg39), prepared for Rise Gold by Greg Kulla, Pgeo. from Amec, Foster, Wheeler on 6/1/2017 at https://www.risegoldcorp.com/uploads/content/I-M_Tech_Report.pdf

The Brunswick Land, also called the New Brunswick Site, the Brunswick Site or Brunswick Site Land, is comprised of APNs 009-630-0037 and 009-630-039.

The Brunswick Site Land was sold in 1960 following the end of mining operations in 1956 and has not been operated as a production mine since then. Rise purchased ~93 acres comprising the Brunswick Site (~37 acres) and the Idaho-Maryland/Centennial Site (~56 acres) from the BET Group in January 2017. On May 23, 2018, Rise purchased 82 acres of the “Mill Site Property” from Sierra Pacific Industries.

Rise Grass Valley claims that the Brunswick Site is a part of their “Vested Rights Property” or the “Vested Mine Property”. A decision of Rise’s VR Petition will be decided by the Board of Supervisors.

See Appendix E for an overview map of the properties currently owned by Rise and claimed as having vested rights.

Brunswick Mine Site History and Comments

1941 Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation purchases land and mineral rights from Lawrence and Vivian Mazzanti in July 1941, thereby fully consolidating the Vested Mine Property.³¹⁹

From Footnote ³¹⁹: Exhibit 151: Deed of Reconveyance from Lawrence and Vivian Mazzanti to IMM Corporation. This transaction is for Mineral Rights, not Surface Rights. The use of the term “fully consolidating” suggests some major event.

The Rise I-M Technical Report, published by Amec, Foster, Wheeler on 6/1/2017 lists history by year, including changes in ownership as they occur. There is no entry in the Technical Report for 1941 and no mention of Lawrence or Vivian Mazzanti as owners of property sold to IMM Corporation, likely because this event is Mineral Rights only.

1945 {The Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation reports that a shortage of miners and cave-ins in the Mine are preventing return to full-scale operations.³³³ It also announces that 3 new and important veins discovered in 1942 by diamond core drilling will be developed and mined “when conditions become favorable.”³³⁴ A small sawmill is constructed in the fall, located south of the Idaho-Maryland mill, near east Bennett Road.³³⁵ The existing sawmill located near the Idaho-Maryland shaft is converted into a carpenter shop.³³⁶}

This sawmill is part of the Idaho Site and not part of the Brunswick Site or Mill Site. Rise does not own the property where the “Idaho-Maryland shaft” is located. Referenced quote from Clark 209 also says “*The sawmill was capable of furnishing lumber for mine use and lumber for sale.*”

“*A small sawmill...located south of the Idaho-Maryland mill...*” is actually located east of Centennial Dr and south of Whispering Pines, and is not part of the property that Rise owns.

The Brunswick sawmill at the Mill Site was constructed in 1946.

1946 {Combined capacity of the Brunswick and Idaho-Maryland mills has been increased from 1,200 to 1,500 tons per day, milling approximately 230 tons of ore daily and employing 220 men.³³⁷ The Idaho-Maryland sawmill is upgraded to a capacity of 40,000 board feet per shift.³³⁸ The Brunswick sawmill is also constructed and in operation “to cut timber for the mine.”³³⁹ Also at the Brunswick Mine, a mine backfill system is designed and installed to fill mined-out stopes underground with mill tailings from the surface.³⁴⁰}

See 1945 above. The Idaho-Maryland sawmill is not located on property owned by Rise.

1948 {Total annual operating revenue from gold production at the Mine is \$1,687,484.37.³⁴⁸ The Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation reports a net loss of \$243,307.40 and a working capital of \$8,216.71.³⁴⁹ The real price of gold has fallen to approximately \$450 per ounce in current 2023 dollars.³⁵⁰ The sawmill continues to run and cuts 12,201,546 feet of lumber.³⁵¹}

From Footnote ³⁵¹: Exhibit 166: 12.2M feet of lumber is accurate **but misleading**. Only 16% of sawmill operations were used exclusively for the mine. Exhibit 166,

SF Examiner 03/30/48 “The company’s sawmill operations last year resulted in 12,201,456 feet of lumber cut. Of this amount, **1,928,182 feet were delivered to the mine and the remainder sold.**” [emphasis added].

1954 {During the year, 88,632 tons of ore was produced from the New Brunswick shaft and milled at the Brunswick mill,³⁷¹ and Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation reports losses of \$471,372.³⁷² Active mining occurs in at least 14 areas throughout the Mine,³⁷³ and new discoveries of scheelite containing tungsten are made.³⁷⁴ Bullion from the Mine is shipped to the American Smelting and Refining Co. in Selby.³⁷⁵

Several surface properties are sold, with reservation of mineral rights, as well as reservation of rights necessary to facilitate mining operations, including roadways and maintenance.³⁷⁶ For example, the deed from Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation to John J. Looser, dated July 22nd, contains the following reservations:

all the mineral, metal matter and rock contained under said premises, with the right to extract at any time hereafter all the mineral, metal matter and rock contained under said property, from any depth up to and within 75 feet of the surface of said property, without disturbing the surface thereof.

...all necessary or convenient rights of way for roads, pipe lines, or other easements necessary or convenient for working said Independence Quartz Mine, Patented, and in consideration of said right to so follow the Independence Quartz Ledge and said rights of way.³⁷⁷

On September 10, 1954, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors adopts Ordinance No. 196, the Nevada County Zoning Enabling Ordinance, which requires, for the first time, a Use Permit for the “commercial excavation of natural materials within a distance of 1,000 feet from any public street, road, or highway.”³⁷⁸ This ordinance becomes effective October 10, 1954.³⁷⁹

1955 {In February, 48 employees are terminated and by May, development of the Mine is suspended with the exception of tungsten exploration.³⁸⁵ Mining operations turn to stoping whatever high-grade quartz is available.³⁸⁶ Several more surface properties are sold, again with reservations of mineral rights.³⁸⁷ For example, the grant from Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation to the County of Nevada dated October 24th, reserves the following:

*the right to mine for extract and take minerals from beneath the surface of, and the subsurface of that portion of the property lying more than 50 feet beneath the surface thereof.*³⁸⁸

The profitability of gold mining has fallen to the equivalent gold price of approximately \$400 per ounce in current 2023 dollars.³⁸⁹ Only 28,905 tons of ore are mined, down from 88,892 tons the previous year.³⁹⁰

Clark pg246: “*The mining and milling of gold ore was discontinued as of December 27, 1955...*”

1956 {Tungsten exploration and mining continues in at least 6 work sites,³⁹¹ while gold mining ceases due to the static price of gold.³⁹² Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation resolves to dewater the Union Hill shaft and upper workings to eliminate the possibility of flooding in and to facilitate future mining and exploration of the Brunswick Mine.³⁹³ To this end, the Union Hill shaft is retimbered and electrical power is installed.³⁹⁴ However, the dewatering is halted when it becomes apparent that it will require a greater outlay of money.³⁹⁵ To acquire this money, Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation applies for a \$122,000 grant from

the Defense Mineral Administration but is denied.^{396}}

MISLEADING: From Footnote ³⁹³: Clark pg246: is actually Clark at 247. Clark does not say “to facilitate future mining and exploration”. Actual quote is “*It also would provide a greater area of exploration for scheelite, where high-grade tungsten had been mined...*”.

From Footnote ³⁹³: Clark pg246: “*Now that gold mining had ceased, the future of the mine focused entirely on the production of tungsten.*”

{Due to lack of financing, the Board of Directors of the Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation orders on September 25th the cessation of nearly all tungsten production, the unoccupancy of the Idaho shaft, and that the mines be allowed to flood to the 1,450-foot level of the Mine.³⁹⁷ The raise on the 1,100-foot level was to be continued.³⁹⁸}

{As a part of the retrenchment program commenced in response to rising costs of labor and materials and the static price of gold, the **Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation sells the Idaho-Maryland surface plant, including the mill, cyanide plant, headframe, hoists, compressors, and several buildings**, to the Oro Lumber Company, headed by Gladys Perkins, Robert Graham, and Ed Brunning.³⁹⁹ The **Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation also sells several surface properties, including the Brunswick sawmill site**, to Milton and Ina Balmain, but again reserves the mineral estate.⁴⁰⁰} [emphasis added]

From Footnote ³⁹⁹: Exhibit 199: Sacramento Bee 10/22/56: “*...Ore Lumber Company which recently purchased the plant sawmill.*”

Note “*...sells several surface properties, including the Brunswick sawmill site...*” As of 1956 the Idaho-Maryland Mine Corporation does not own the Mill Site property any longer and the sawmill runs as a stand-alone business until 1991. It has sat vacant since.

1957 {News outlets report on the epidemic of gold mine closures in California, brought on by “[i]ncreased costs of labor, steel, blasting powder and lumber used for shoring” following World War II.⁴⁰¹ *The Los Angeles Times* reports:

*Prior to World War II, there were 1600 gold mines in California. By 1953, 98% of the State’s output was coming from 10 mines, and today these mines are closing one by one. The miners, faced with rising costs, can no longer economically afford to extract gold from the earth at the rate of \$35 an ounce established by the government in 1934.*⁴⁰²

When questioned, mine officials stated they “believe a sizeable increase in the price of gold is the only answer [to the closure of mines].”⁴⁰³}

{In October, the **Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation sells a 56.004-acre portion of the Property located south-east of the Idaho-Maryland tailings pond** but reserves mineral rights below 100-feet and a roadway right of way for the purpose of moving men and equipment to the sand flume, a ditch and a tailings dam into which the contents of the ditch flow.⁴⁰⁴ The locations of the sand flume and ditch indicates that the Idaho-Maryland Mines Corporation planned to transfer tailings from the Brunswick mill to the Idaho-Maryland tailings pond along the route of the former narrow-gauge railroad.⁴⁰⁵ Several other properties are sold but always with a reservation of the mineral estate and the continuing right to explore and develop the Mine in the future.⁴⁰⁶ For example, the deed from Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation to Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital contains the following reservations: [emphasis added]}

{RESERVING TO IDAHO MARYLAND MINES CORPORATION and its successors and assigns all minerals, gas, oil, and mineral deposits of every kind and nature contained in and under the above-described real property, together with all necessary and convenient rights to explore for, develop, produce, extract and take the same....⁴⁰⁷}

From Footnote ⁴⁰¹: Exhibit 209: Nevada State Journal 07/07/57 “*The cessation of active gold mining in the underground workings of the Idaho-Maryland Mine Co...marks the end of an era...*”

Clark: pg252 (last page) re: 1957 auction. “*...the last cage of items was hosted to the surface in the New Brunswick Shaft. The electrical power to the mine then was disconnected at the Brunswick substation.*”. Auction on 05/21 and 05/22 1957 sold “*...everything from the Old Brunswick, New Brunswick, and what remained of the Idaho Maryland mines.*”

1959 {On March 13th, the Corporation’s Board of Directors decides to transfer the surface (to a depth of 250 feet) of a portion of the Mine Property, while reserving appropriate mill site areas, to settle \$200,000 of debt.⁴¹⁰ On June 2nd, the sales agreement is modified to promptly sell certain parcels of land for \$89,000, convey the balance of the surface to a depth of 200 feet, excluding 65 acres to be retained by the Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation, in satisfaction of the balance of the principle of the \$200,000 note in favor of Oliver Investment Company and Frederick W. Richmond.⁴¹¹}

{On August 3rd, Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation transfers the land to the Oliver Investment Company who then immediately transfers it to Sum-Gold Corporation Inc.,⁴¹² but reserves the “mineral rights and 70 acres around three mine shafts.”⁴¹³ The reserved area covers the New Brunswick shaft, the Old Brunswick shaft, the Union Hill shaft, and the Brunswick mill site.⁴¹⁴ The agreement reserves the mineral and mining rights as follows:}

{EXCEPTING AND RESERVING TO IDAHO MARYLAND MINES CORPORATION and its successors and assigns all minerals, gas, oil, an mineral deposits of every kind and nature located in and under such real property, provided, however, that wherever the surface is granted hereunder, then excepting and reserving only minerals, gas, oil and mineral deposits below a depth of 200 feet beneath such surface; together with all necessary and convenient rights to explore for, develop, produce, extract, and take the same, subject to the express limitation that the foregoing exception and reservation shall not include any right of entry upon the surface of said land without consent of the owner of such surface of said land.⁴¹⁵}

From Footnote ⁴¹⁴: Exhibit 220: Survey for Idaho-Maryland Mines Corp by T.H. McGuire & Son (Aug. 1959). “reserved area” includes only one of the Mill Site parcels (APN 006-441-034). None of the 3 shafts referenced in McGuire survey are on the Mill Site. See 1956, Mill Site sold to Milton and Ina Balmain.

McGuire & Sons survey identifying Idaho-Maryland Mine Corp Brunswick Site property includes areas north of East Bennett Rd that are **not owned** by Rise. Parcels not owned by Rise that were part of the Brunswick Site in 1959 are:

009-581-016, 009-581-017, 009-581-018, 009-581-019, 009-581-053.

From Footnote 415; Exhibit 218 pg200: On August 3, 1959, Idaho-Maryland Mine Corp sold “...all its real property, ..., situated in the County of Nevada, State of California, together with any buildings and improvements thereon...” except for the mineral rights.

1960 {Idaho Maryland Mines Corporation changes its name to Idaho Maryland Industries Inc.⁴¹⁶}

From Footnote ⁴¹¹: Exhibit 217: pg198. Mineral rights are liquidated. “RESOLVED: That the President and Secretary of the Corporation be and are hereby authorized to **sell to Sum-Gold Corporation approximately 2,500 acres of mineral rights, which have heretofore been abandoned by non-payment of taxes, for a sum not less than \$1500.00.**” [emphasis added]

1963 {On April 17th, Idaho Maryland Industries Inc. auctions the Idaho-Maryland Mine Property, comprised of 2,630 acres of mineral rights and 78.531 acres of surface rights⁴¹⁹ (later known as “BET Acres”), to mine owner and gold investor William Ghidotti and his wife Marian Ghidotti, who purchased the property as an investment.⁴²⁰ An avid gold investor, William Ghidotti would later purchase a gold collection from the Sierra Mother Lode gold mines.⁴²¹ The Mine Property is held jointly by William and Marian Ghidotti.⁴²²}

From Footnote ⁴²⁰: Exhibit 227: Declaration of Lee Johnson is from 8/30/2023 and possibly scripted by Rise attorney. Note: Lots of speculation and hearsay in this declaration, including that Marion Ghidotti believed her three friends, one with no work history provided, one a land use/title professional and one an accountant “...would be capable of resurrecting the mine due to their collective expertise...” Declaration also notes leases to mining companies in 1980’s thru 2000’s generating income “...even when it was not yet in production”. Exhibit 227, Attachment 1, “BETS Property Payment History”. Lease payments start in 1993, not 1980’s..

1964 {William and Marian Ghidotti purchase additional surface property previously part of the fully-assembled Mine Property, which includes the historical tailings storage area (now referred to as the Centennial Site) from Sum-Gold Corporation Inc.⁴²³}

{A rock crusher with associated mining operations begins operating on the Vested Mine Property in 1964 and continues until 1965, for 4 months.⁴²⁴ In 1965 William and Marian Ghidotti sell 200,000 tons of crushed rock left over from past mining operations.⁴²⁵ With guidance from a former miner at the Mine, the watchman posted to guard the rock finds “several pieces of quartz shot full of gold,” which the former miners had hidden away in or around 1956 once they learned of the Mine’s imminent closure.⁴²⁶ William keeps the gold “to show to prospective buyers, if and when he decided to sell the mineral rights.”⁴²⁷}

VR Petition Footnote ⁴²⁵: Appendix F: pg94-95 refers several times to the Brunswick mine being closed and “*Bill [Ghidotti] wanted to be sure nothing was disturbed other than the [surface] rock...*”.

1968 {*The Stockton Daily Evening Record* reports a predicted rise in the price of gold, and reports: *To all intents and purposes gold mining in the U.S. has been dead for a quarter century – shut down by presidential order in 1942 which syphoned off men and*

materials to other needed wartime industries.^{429}}

{In the meantime, California mines are in “no rush to reopen” due to the deflated price of gold, as well as the extensive labor and refurbishing costs required to reopen a gold mine.^{430}}}

From Footnote ⁴³⁰: Exhibit 234: “*The big operators, their equipment deteriorated and their mine shafts filled with water indicate the price of gold would have to triple to justify re-opening.*”

1976 {Marian Ghidotti purchases additional surface lands from Newmont Mining in or around 1976, which are contiguous to the Centennial Industrial Site, for the purpose of facilitating future mining operations on the Mine Property.⁴³⁷ The Brunswick sawmill produces the lumber needed to construct a piping system for recycling wastewater from the wastewater pond to the log deck, and the water which is used is pumped from the Brunswick Mine.⁴³⁸}

Brunswick sawmill and Mill Site parcel#s are not owned by Ghidotti. Brunswick sawmill, operated as Brunswick Timber Products Corp, owned by Bohemia, Inc, produces lumber for any customer who wants to purchase.

Footnote ⁴³⁸: Exhibit 249: pg91: In this case Bohemia used its own lumber to build its own piping system on its own land. None of the APNs noted in Exhibit 248 re, Ghidotti estate were part of the Mill Site. Getting water from an adjacent mine is not mining. The activity described above and footnote ⁴³⁸ had nothing to do with active mining.

1988 {The BET Group sells Lots 3 and 8 of BET Acres, reserving the following:

the mineral, metal matter, and rock lying below 200 feet of the surface, with the right to extract and remove said mineral, metal matter and rock from any depth up to 200 feet of the surface of said premises, without disturbing the surface thereof.^{467}}

{The BET Group options the Mine Property to Mother Lode Gold Mines, which announces that it expects the Mine to be in production within 5 years.⁴⁶⁸ The BET Group and Mother Lode Gold Mines execute a mining lease and option to purchase the Mine, and Mother Lode Gold Mines assigns the lease to a subsidiary, Northern Mines Inc.⁴⁶⁹}

The “Mine Property” reference relates to the two parcels that makeup the Brunswick Site (also referred to as the “New Brunswick”).

From Footnote ⁴⁶³: Exhibit 262: beginning at pg152, 05/02/1989 proposal from Condor Earth Technologies, pg154, paragraph 2 “*Currently, the property is such that the 2750 acres of deeded mineral rights are protected by **only 37 acres of surface, the latter acreage centered at the New Brunswick Shaft. At the New Brunswick, the shaft is capped with a deteriorating concrete slab, the headframe is gone and the old ore bins are in questionable condition. Fortunately, the adjoining parcel is occupied by an active lumber mill and much of the formerly productive area of the mine is currently overlain by industrial development.***” [emphasis added]

The New Brunswick 37 acres (Brunswick Site) was not active and the 82 acre “Mill

Site” in the “adjoining parcel” was an “active lumber mill”.

1993 {In February, Consolidated Del Norte relinquishes its lease on the Mine Property and in August, a mining lease and option to purchase agreement is executed with Emperor Gold Corporation.⁴⁸² Emperor Gold Corporation begins the “permitting process to rehabilitate the New Brunswick 3,460-foot shaft, dewater the mine to the 3,280-foot level, and commence exploratory drilling in promising areas from the 2,000-foot level and below.”⁴⁸³}

From Footnote ⁴⁸²: Exhibit 279: Historical Notes on the Idaho-Maryland Mine (pg282), On 08/18/93 BET group leases 37 acres of surface rights and 2750 acres of mineral rights with option to purchase to EMPEROR GOLD. 03/10/94 Emperor Gold leases, from Sierra Pacific Industries, the “*adjacent old Brunswick sawmill site, consisting of about 80 [surface] acres and over 60,000 square feet of industrial buildings.*” The 80 acre Mill Site was separate and distinct from the Brunswick Site. The Mill Site was a sawmill operation, not a mining operation.

{Nevada County rezones the sawmill property, including BET Acres Lot 8, to M1-SP to allow for “service maintenance and repair, manufacturing and processing, warehousing and distribution facilities... office, professional and conference facilities.”⁴⁸⁵ According to the Staff Report, “the County does not intend to restrict the site to a mill use.”⁴⁸⁶ At a County Board of Supervisors meeting, a representative of Sierra Pacific explains the company’s intent to use the site for industrial purposes.⁴⁸⁷}

From Footnote ⁴⁸⁷: Exhibit 282: Board of Supervisors minutes 12/14/93. Refers to the site as “...*the old Bohemia Mill site.*” (pg313). Amended zoning applies to three of the four Mill Site properties, 06-441-03, -04, -05 (current APNs 006-441-003, 006-441-004, 006-441-005) as well as -29 and -30 (pg314). Mr. Dale Creighton, representing the owner, Sierra Pacific Industries, notes “...*the intent of [SPI is] to use the site for industrial purposes.*”

{The BET Group begins receiving substantial amounts of annual royalty and option payments for the Mine.⁴⁸⁸ The payments continue until 2012.⁴⁸⁹}

This is 10 years after the Ghidotti estate was settled.

1994 {Emperor Gold holds an option to purchase the Vested Mine and announces potential gold mineralization of up to 3 million ounces of gold within the Vested Mine Property.⁴⁹⁰ The company provides a “new six-page brochure and information pack” to “potential investors.”⁴⁹¹ The mining lease and option dated October 1994 includes an option to purchase the Vested Mine Property for \$8,000,000.⁴⁹²}

{Emperor Gold enters into a lease agreement with an option to purchase the sawmill property, which was effective March 10, 1994.⁴⁹³}

Use of “vested mine” is overly broad and does not include the Mill Site or, in this case, the Idaho-Maryland/Centennial Site. Emperor Gold does not lease or purchase the Idaho-Maryland/Centennial Site at this time.

From Footnote ⁴⁸²: Exhibit 279: 03/10/94 Emperor Gold leases, from Sierra Pacific Industries, the “*adjacent old Brunswick sawmill site, consisting of about 80 [surface] acres and over 60,000 square feet of industrial buildings.*” See notes in

year 1993.

From Footnote ⁴⁹⁰: Exhibit 283: 10/22/94 The National Post article also includes re IM Mine “*Closed in 1956 due to the low price of gold...*”

From Footnote ⁴⁹²: Exhibit 284: references 1999 Financial Statements, produced in April 2000. The October 1994 \$8M option is mentioned (pg330), then on pg331, the remaining value of \$6.9M is written off. Summary: from early 1994 thru the end of 1999 no mining activity occurred.

From Footnote ⁴⁹³: Exhibit 285: Lease and option to purchase surface rights to the “*Brunswick millsite...Parcel Nos. APN 6-44’ 03, -04, -05 [current Parcel#’s 006-441-003, 006-441-004, 006-441-005), -29 and -30]...between Sierra Pacific Industries...as owner; and Emperor Gold...as lessee.*”

1995 {To facilitate exploration of the Mine, Emperor Gold obtains an option to purchase the Brunswick mill site.⁴⁹⁴}

From Footnote ⁴⁹⁴: Exhibit 286: Northern Miner 12/11/95: “*Except for a concrete silo and some old foundations, little is left of the huge Idaho-Maryland mining complex...To facilitate exploration at the mine site, Emperor acquired a 3-year lease and option-to-purchase on the nearby Brunswick mill site. The Brunswick asset includes 79.8 acres of surface rights (zoned industrial) and the top 200 ft. of mineral rights, as well as the Brunswick shaft, which will be used to dewater the mine.*” The “Brunswick mill site” and the “Brunswick asset” are the “Mill Site”, which was a sawmill and has been closed since 1991.

1996 {Nevada County approves Use Permit U94-017 for dewatering and underground exploration of the Idaho-Maryland Mine.⁴⁹⁶ To this end, Emperor Gold conducts extensive grading activities.}

From Footnote ⁴⁹⁶: Exhibit 287: 02/05/1996 Northern Miner article says nothing directly about “extensive grading activities.”

1997 {Emperor Gold prepares evaluations and engineering studies for the purpose of bringing the mine into a 30-year production life with a 1,500 ton per day operation.⁴⁹⁷ It also conducts collar inspection and tests at the shaft. The company changes its name to Emgold Mining Corporation.⁴⁹⁸}

From Footnote ⁴⁹⁷: Exhibit 288: 12/28/1997 Sacramento Bee article also states “*The Idaho-Maryland mine operated from 1862 to 1956.*”

1999 {Emgold Mining Corporation’s lease with an option to purchase the sawmill property from Sierra Pacific expires on December 31, 1999.⁵⁰¹}

See above notes for 1995, re: Exhibit 286.

2001 {The County grants an extension of Use Permit U94-017, which permits the dewatering of the Mine, to January 25, 2003.⁵⁰²}

From Footnote ⁵⁰²: Exhibit 291: Planning Dept and Planning Commission Use Permit approval letters, pg377. “*Emperor Gold controls the surface rights to 117*

acres of contiguous property located southwest of the intersection of Brunswick Road and East Bennett Road. This includes the 80 acre Bohemia Mill site.”

2002 {Emgold Mining Corporation renegotiates its mining lease and option to purchase agreement with the BET Group to now provide for an option to purchase the Vested Mine Property for \$4,35,000 with an expiration date of May 31, 2007.⁵⁰³}

Footnote ⁵⁰³: Exhibit 292: p384: The correct amount was \$4,350,000.

2003 {Emgold Mining Corporation conducts exploration surface drilling,⁵⁰⁴ and the Old Bohemia Mill is torn down.⁵⁰⁵}

Exploration surface drilling does not require a permit in Nevada County. Thus, drilling operations are not mining operations that would reflect a vested rights activity.

Footnote ⁵⁰⁵: Exhibit 295: 04/04/2003 The Union article notes three relevant items
1) “*The remains of the old Bohemia Mill are being cut, cubed and cleared to make way for a possible business park and light industrial site.*”,
2) “*...property owner Sierra Pacific Industries plans to develop a map for the site.*”
3) “*We’re still in the formative stages,*” Ed Sylvester, president of SCO Engineering, said about plans that could include a business park and a light-manufacturing site.”

2003 **Bohemia Mill was a sawmill, owned by Sierra Pacific Industries, not a mine.**
The Union, February 13, 2003: “***The mines in the Grass Valley district closed for good in 1956, when the U.S. government fixed the price of gold at \$35 an ounce.***”

2008 {In October 2008, the City of Grass Valley releases a Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Idaho-Maryland Project, which allows for mining operations to resume at the Mine.⁵¹⁰ However, the application is subsequently withdrawn.}

FALSE. A Draft EIR is **not an approval** “*which allows for mining operations to resume...*”

2013 {Emgold Mining Corporation’s lease and purchase agreement for the Vested Mine Property is allowed to expire.⁵¹² Over the next few years, the Mine Property is advertised for sale as a “historic California gold mine.”⁵¹³ The BET Group stores drill core from Emgold’s exploration program in two large storage units.⁵¹⁴}

In the period from 1993 to 2017, Emperor Gold obtained rights and obtained a permit for exploration and dewatering the mine (which was not utilized) and then as Emgold applied for a Use Permit to open the mine, but was unable to complete the EIR. In the period from 1993 to 2017, Emperor Gold obtained rights and obtained a permit for exploration. No mining took place during this period.. Some exploration activities from the surface were conducted by Emgold in the 1996–2003 time frame as authorized under Conditional Use Permit U94-017.

2017 {Rise Resources Inc. purchases the Vested Mine Property from the BET Group for \$2,000,000 for the purpose of resuming mining and processing operations thereon.⁵¹⁵ Shortly thereafter, Rise Resources Inc. commences exploration drilling from the surface⁵¹⁶ and changes its name to Rise Gold Corp.⁵¹⁷}

Rise has not purchased the “Vested Mine Property” per their definition, as they do not at this point own the Sierra Pacific Industries “Mill Site” or Centennial site. See notes for year 1959, McGuire land survey: Rise also does purchase parcels north of East Bennett Rd, including the “Old Brunswick Shaft”.

There is no such thing as a “Vested Mine Property” until after the Board of Supervisors makes a ruling on Rise’s claim for vested rights.

2018 {May 23, 2018 – Vancouver, British Columbia – Rise Gold Corp...announces it has completed the purchase of 82 acres...(the “Mill Site Property”) adjacent to the historic New Brunswick mine shaft.}

The Company has purchased the Mill Site Property to support the exploration and future development of the Idaho-Maryland Gold Project. The Mill Site Property is located adjacent to the New Brunswick mine shaft. Prior to 1991, the Mill Site Property hosted a major commercial lumber mill and 55,000 ft² of industrial buildings.⁵¹⁹}

The Brunswick Site is separate from the “Mill Site Property” which was a separate purchase with no mining production at the Mill Site Property. **From 1956 when it was sold to the Balmain’s, until 1991 the Mill Site was a sawmill. From 1991 to the present, the Mill Site has remained abandoned.**

2019 {After completing its exploration drilling program,⁵²⁰ Rise Grass Valley Inc. applies to the County of Nevada for a use permit to re-open the Idaho- Maryland Mine, and is fully financed to complete the permitting process.⁵²¹}

If vested rights existed, there was no reason to apply for a Use Permit.

The Union, December 9, 2019: ***“Previous attempts to revive the gold mine in the 1950s, 1980s and most recently in 2010 have all failed due to varying combinations of financial distress and community pushback.”***

2021 Phase I/II Environmental Site Assessment prepared for Rise Gold on 6/16/2020 by NV5.

NV5 06/16/20 report (Appendix K) page 8 *“Historical site activities have included gold mining and lumber milling”* and page 9 *“Lumber Milling”* section.

2021 The San Francisco Experience Podcast*, Reviving California’s Gold Mines, May **2021 interview with Ben Mossman.**

(<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/james-herlihy/episodes/Reviving-Californias-Gold-Mines--An-Interview-with-Ben-Mossman--CEO-of-Rise-Gold-Corp-e11b15j>)

Mossman quotes:

- ***“it has been closed since 1956”*** (@6:05)
- ***“we bought additional land beside it which was the location of a major saw mill until 1990”*** (@7:28)
- ***“we have all the maps from the mine...which is very important, because if we didn’t have those records we wouldn’t be able to know where the old mine things were”*** (@7:48)

Idaho-Maryland Mine Abandonment Evidence

10/10/2023 – prepared by CEA Foundation

- 1954 Nevada County adopted Ordinance No. 196, requiring a Use Permit for mining.
- 1955 In the Idaho-Maryland Mine, all mining and milling of gold was discontinued. Only some tungsten mining was taking place. [Gold in Quartz, The Legendary Idaho Maryland Mine, pg246, Jack Clark, 2005.]
- 1956 The Brunswick Mine was closed.* On September 25, 1956, tungsten mining was halted and the mine was allowed to refill up to the 1450 level. Surface plant was sold to Oro Lumber Co. This included the processing mill, cyanide plant, headframe, hoists, compressors, and several buildings. *“In addition, the California Division of Industrial Safety ordered the corporation to cease mining in close proximity to the Union Hill mine, due to the danger of flooding the Brunswick.”* [Clark, pg248]
- *Note that the IM Mine consisted of acquired mines: Idaho, Maryland, Brunswick, etc., so these major regions of the IM mine were identified by their original names.

“All gold mining operations in the Grass Valley mining district ceased in July 1956” [Clark, pg252] (Note: much of the text from Clark is included in Petition Appendix E, but pages 249-263 were omitted.) [emphasis added]

- 1957 *“After the mine closed, the salvage crew continued removing equipment from underground.”* The mine was allowed to completely re-flood. **Beginning on May 21, 1957, everything was liquidated in a 2 day auction.** [Clark, pg252] [emphasis added]

See Idaho-Maryland Technical Report at RiseGoldcorp.com (https://www.risegoldcorp.com/uploads/content/I-M_Tech_Report.pdf) section 6.0, page 6-9: *Two-day auction held to liquidate mine equipment and structures. Auction sales enabled payment of all outstanding debts.*

- 1959 Exhibit 218, pgs 200-204. On Aug 3, 1959, Idaho-Maryland Mine sells all of its real property, except mineral rights.
- 1960 On Jan 29, 1960, Idaho-Maryland Mine resolves to liquidate its mineral rights. Footnote ⁴¹¹: Exhibit 217: pg198. **“RESOLVED: That the President and Secretary of the Corporation be and are hereby authorized to sell to Sum-Gold Corporation approximately 2,500 acres of mineral rights, which have heretofore been abandoned by non-payment of taxes, for a sum not less than \$1500.00.”** [emphasis added]
- 1964 Centennial site *“In 1964 or 1965 there was a rock crusher on one of the Dumps of the Idaho-Mine Property , for about four months - **Since then people have been coming in and taking rock without permission. That is why I am selling what rock is left.** (signed by owner Ghidotti)”* (Appendix L) [emphasis added]
- 1979 Use Permit U79-41 An application by North Star Rock Products Inc. for aggregate processing and sales by reprocessing mine waste at the former Idaho-Maryland Mine tailings dump, now called the “Centennial site”. **No ore mining. Note that the mine access tunnels are not on this property.**

See 10/12/1979 from Marion Ghidotti to Planning Dept, U79-41.pdf, pg93: declaration that for parcels noted “...mine rock wastes and mill sand has continuously been removed...from 1967 to 1979.” Years specified by Ghidotti are not “...since the mine closed...” The owner (Ghidotti) is also acknowledging the mine was closed.

Per Staff report Environmental Setting p10: “Existing Uses **The project site is unused except for the occasional removal of rock and sand wastes by the owner of the property. Lumber is also stored on the property.**” (Appendix M) [emphasis added]

- 1980 Hearings for U79-41 and subsequent approval and operations. See detail comments, re: U79-41 in Centennial Site History-NC document. Summary:
- 1) Rise does not own all parcels included in U79-41 application,
 - 2) Rise does not own the property where “Rock Processing Plant #1” is located,
 - 3) The “non-conforming use” is that the operation was already happening without a Use Permit,
 - 4) U79-41 is for a surface only rock crushing operation, not an operation mining minerals. Underground mining for gold had already been abandoned.

From VR Petition Exhibit 251: pg23: Site Plan map prepared by North Star Rock. Note “**Abandoned Mining Drift**” pointing to the area of “*Mine Tailings*” that spreads across parcels owned by Rise. [emphasis added]

- 1985 U85-025 February 1985 Amendment to Use Permit U79-41, prepared for North Star Rock by Foothill Planning Services. See Appendix D “...proposed amendment to the existing use permit is resultant from two primary factors (1) **the mine tailing resource on site has been totally depleted...**” [emphasis added]

The U85-025 permit is for processing imported rock, as there are no more surface tailings rock from the mine.

Use Permit U85-025 to amend U79-41 to allow relocating the crushing plane and **allow the importation of materials from off-site**. This is an aggregate processing business, **not an underground gold mine**.

- 1988 1988 - 1989: From August 1988 through April 1989, Argo Associates excavated 7,756 tons of tailings from the eastern portion of the site and transported the tailings off-site for gold recovery at Homestake Mining Company near Clear Lake, California.

“The USEPA Identification Number for the Site is CAN000908495. According to the Envirostor database (DTSC, 2019 Sept), **the site was identified as an abandoned mine in 1989.**” (https://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report?global_id=29100007) [emphasis added]

- 1991 The Union February 7, 1991: “*Crompton said. The mine closed in 1942 under the War Production Order and reopened in 1945, he said. It closed again in 1956 and has not been worked since.*” (Appendix N)

- 1992 {Application for Exploration and/or Mining Permit”.⁴⁸⁰ The County grants Use Permit U92-037 in December, thus guaranteeing the continuation of mining activities at the Mine Property.⁴⁸¹}

Use Permit U92-037. See Exhibit 277. Application for Use Permit for Mining from North Star Rock Products. Section 6 of the application states “*Expand existing rock harvesting...this is a surface quarry.*” [emphasis added]

“...thus guaranteeing the continuation of mining...” is **FALSE**. Use Permit U92-037 is for expansion of the existing surface quarry. Section 7 specifically states “**Aggregate only: no precious mineral extraction**”. [emphasis added]

- 1994 From Footnote ⁴⁹⁰: Exhibit 283: 10/22/94 The National Post article also includes re IM Mine “*Closed in 1956 due to the low price of gold...*”
- 1996 Emperor Gold Use Permit for dewatering and exploration is granted. **No mining takes place. The mine is not dewatered. Only some surface work and sampling was done.**
- 2003 The Old Bohemia Mill (Mill Site Sawmill) is torn down. **Owned by Sierra Pacific Industries. Not part of the mine operations since 1956.**
- 2004 Western Mining History (<https://westernmininghistory.com/mine-detail/10310630/>): “*All mining ceased in 1957. At the time of closure, the mine was owned by Idaho-Maryland Industries. In 1983, Emgold Mining Corp., through its subsidiary Emperor Gold (U.S.) Corp., obtained a lease and option to purchase all mineral rights formerly held by Idaho-Maryland Industries.*”
- 2005 2005-2012 Emgold Mining Inc. Use Permit application completes an initial Draft EIR but fails to complete the Final EIR. **No Mining takes place.**
- 2013 See Rise Gold Idaho-Maryland Technical Report at RiseGoldcorp.com (https://www.risegoldcorp.com/uploads/content/I-M_Tech_Report.pdf) section 6.0, page 6-11: “*Bet Agreement expires on February 1 st 2013. Emgold cannot negotiate an extension of the Lease and Option to Purchase Agreement with the BET Trust forcing the Company to terminate the Idaho-Maryland Project.*”
- 2014 The Union, June 12, 2014: “*But in January, Emgold announced it no longer would list the Idaho-Maryland Mine as a current project for its investors. The project’s website has been removed, and the company does not have the requisite rights to pursue the project.*”
“... although the land’s owners are sitting on a former gold mine, they’re not selling the property as one. **We’re not selling a mine,**” said **Charlie Brock**, broker associate with Coldwell Banker, and the listing agent.
“**The property is not permitted as a mine. It’s zoned M1, or light industrial.**” [emphasis added]
- 2017 February 2013 to January 2017, mine is still abandoned. No active mining or production.

Rise acquires some of the mine surface properties (Centennial, Brunswick). The site of the main Idaho-Maryland Mine processing facilities to the East of the Centennial site are not acquired. They currently are the site of commercial buildings and businesses.

2017 {Rise Resources Inc. purchases the Vested Mine Property from the BET Group for \$2,000,000 for the purpose of resuming mining and processing operations thereon.⁵¹⁵ Shortly thereafter, Rise Resources Inc. commences exploration drilling from the surface⁵¹⁶ and changes its name to Rise Gold Corp.⁵¹⁷}

In 2017, Rise had not yet purchased the “Vested Mine Property” as they define it, as they did not at this point own the Sierra Pacific Industries “Mill Site”.

The mine continues to be abandoned from 2012 until 2017 with no mining production activity.

2018 {Rise Gold Corp. continues extensive exploration drilling from the surface of the Vested Mine Property which “continues to be successful,”⁵¹⁸ and purchases the sawmill property from Sierra Pacific Industries for \$1,900,000 to facilitate “the exploration and future development of the Idaho-Maryland Gold Project.”⁵¹⁹}

See notes for year 1959, McGuire land survey: Rise does not purchase parcels north of East Bennett Rd, including the “Old Brunswick Shaft”.

The “sawmill property” is a separate purchase with no mining production at that site. From 1956 when it was sold to the Balmain’s, until 1991 it was a sawmill. From 1991 to the present, the Mill Site has remained abandoned, except for various community uses.

There is no such thing as a “Vested Mine Property” until after the Board of Supervisors makes a ruling on Rise’s claim for vested rights.

2019 Rise Gold News Release, May 17, 2019: *The Rise Gold property adjacent to the New Brunswick shaft previously hosted a major commercial lumber mill and 55,000 ft² of industrial buildings. All buildings have subsequently been removed.*

The Union, December 9, 2019: “**Previous attempts to revive the gold mine in the 1950s, 1980s and most recently in 2010 have all failed due to varying combinations of financial distress and community pushback.**” [emphasis added]

- 2021 The San Francisco Experience Podcast*, Reviving California's Gold Mines, May 2021 interview with Ben Mossman.
(<https://podcasters.spotify.com/pod/show/james-herlihy/episodes/Reviving-Californias-Gold-Mines--An-Interview-with-Ben-Mossman--CEO-of-Rise-Gold-Corp-e11b15j>)
Mossman quotes:
- ***"it has been closed since 1956"*** (@6:05)
 - *"we bought **additional land beside it** which was the location of a major saw mill until 1990"* (@7:28)
 - *"we have all the maps from the mine...which is very important, because if we didn't have those records we wouldn't be able to know where the old mine things were"* (@7:48)
- 2022 The Inside Hook June 25,2022 (<https://www.insidehook.com/?s=Idaho-Maryland>): *In 1956, the Idaho-Maryland gold mine in California closed its doors for the last time. The site stood abandoned for many years — a status quo that benefited the local environment. Now, as detailed by an article by Hailey Branson-Potts at the Los Angeles Times, the mine has a new owner who's looking to reopen it.*
- LA Times June 24, 2022: *Ben Mossman - His company bought the **abandoned Idaho-Maryland mine** - an 1860s-era treasure trove that once was one of the most productive gold mines in the country.* [emphasis added]
- 2023 The Union, February 13, 2003: *The mines in the Grass Valley district **closed for good in 1956**, when the U.S. government fixed the price of gold at \$35 an ounce.* [emphasis added]



PO Box 972, Cedar Ridge, CA 95924-0972
www.cea-nc.org / email: info@cea-nc.org

Conclusion

Following the regulatory changes initiated by Nevada County in 1954, mining projects were required to obtain a Use Permit. As an existing and continuing operation in 1954, the Idaho-Maryland Mine probably was exempt from the Use Permit requirement at that time.

The mine subsequently shut down in 1956 and assets were liquidated shortly thereafter. The mine was allowed to relood. All mining ceased. The mine has not operated since. Once the mining operations were abandoned, any vested rights to continue mining were lost.

Adjacent to the 37 acre Brunswick Mine site is the 82 acre site of sawmills. Rise now calls these 119 acres “Brunswick Industrial Site.” There are no indications that mining operations were done on the sawmill site at any time, but Rise now plans to build most of the project’s 122,000 sq. ft. processing facilities on that site. The processing facility for the Idaho-Maryland Mine circa 1954 was located on Idaho-Maryland Road, East of the Centennial Site, on land that Rise does not own. This is a significant change.

Intermittent aggregate operations took place by salvaging mine waste from the Centennial site, which historically was used for a tailings dump. These activities are distinct from operations of the Idaho-Maryland Mine.

According to the Nevada County Planning Department, Mining exploration activities such as surface drilling and minor grading do not require a permit, so there is no “vested right” that would apply.

The Rise Grass Valley Vested Rights Petition attempts to stitch together a narrative of continuing operations covering the period from 1956 to the present. To achieve this, evidence such as an owner being “...convinced the Mine would be operational again...”⁴⁵⁰ (Exhibit 226, pg 5), a third party running a sawmill on adjacent lands, and salvaging old surface tailings from the Centennial tailings dump area for an aggregate business, are used to attempt to patch together some sort of “Idaho-Maryland Mine continuous operations” story.

The activities from 1956 to present, as presented by Rise, do not constitute a continuation of the Idaho-Maryland Mine operations, and even if they did, there remain substantial gaps in which no activities were taking place. There is no year-by-year continuity of operations. Furthermore, constructing the processing facilities on what was a sawmill site constitutes a significant change.

Submitting a vested rights petition that is riddled with false statements and significant omissions and based upon such inadequate premises is a misuse of the intention of vested rights law and a waste of community resources. Any vested right that Idaho-Maryland Mine may have had in the 1950's was long ago abandoned.

John Vaughan, CEA Foundation Volunteer

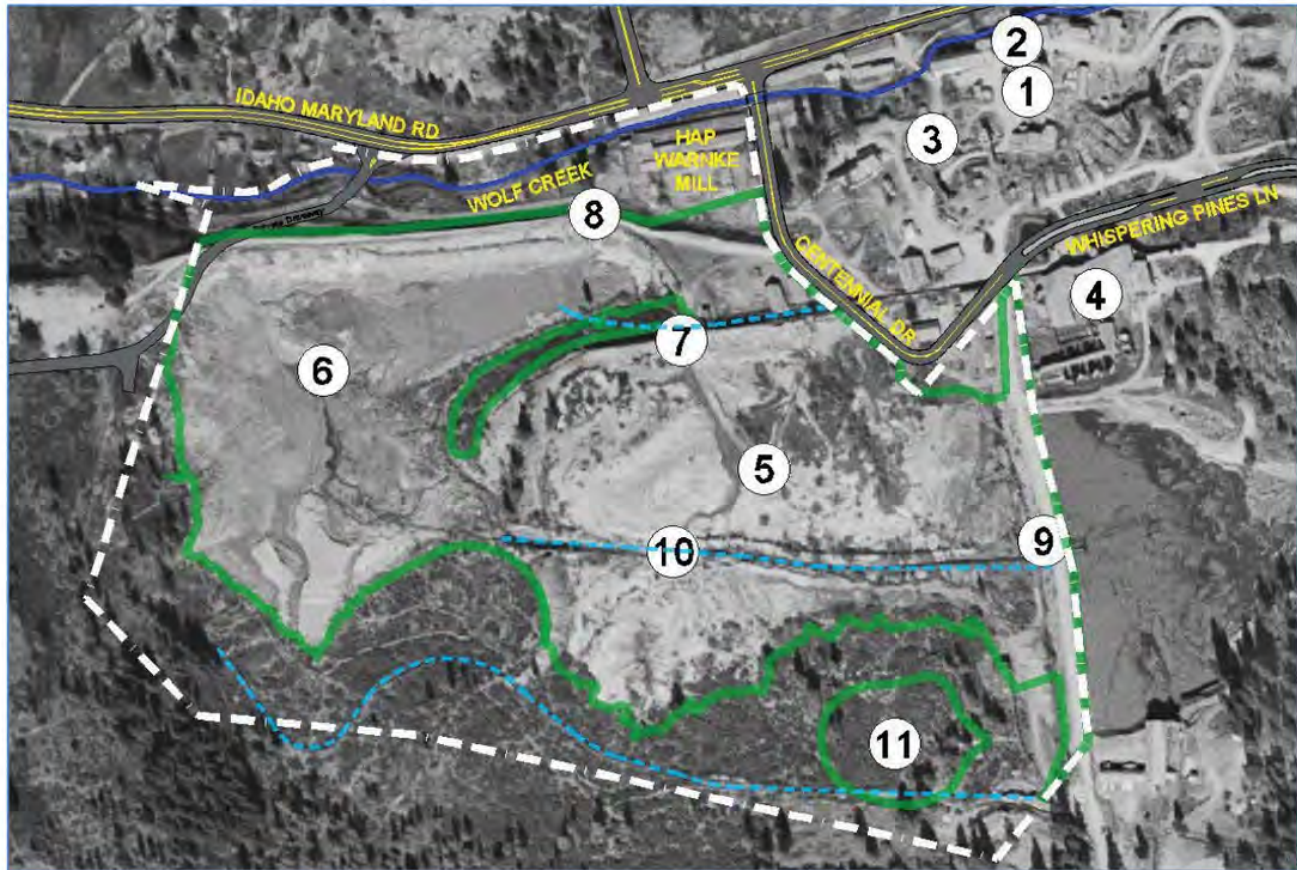
jvaughan1946@gmail.com

Ralph Silberstein, President

CEA Foundation

ralph@cea-nc.org

Appendix A:
DTSC Centennial Usage Maps

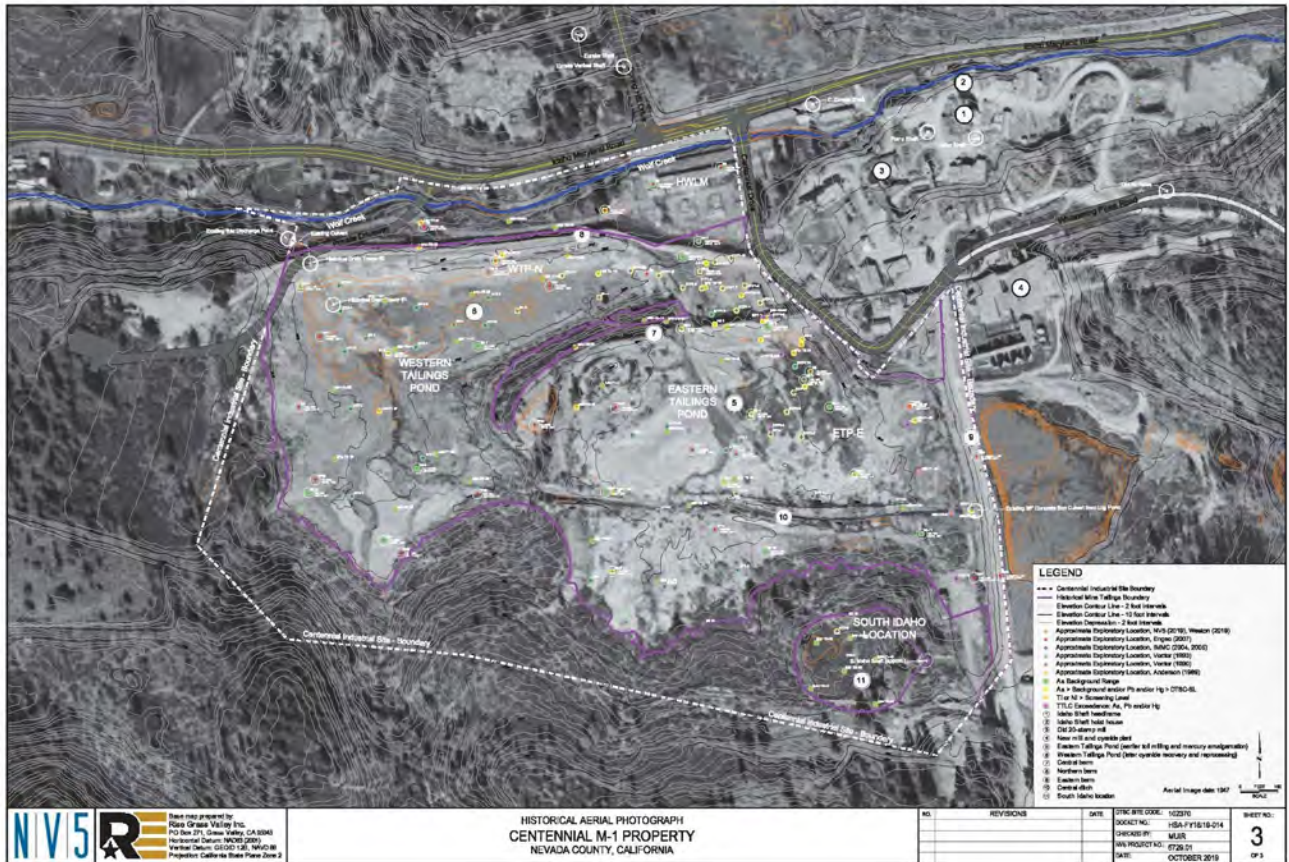


Inset 3.6. Simplified Historical Map based on Sheet 3. Aerial image date 1947.

Notes:

- 1 Idaho Shaft headframe
- 2 Idaho Shaft hoist house
- 3 Old 20-stamp mill
- 4 New mill and cyanide plant
- 5 Eastern tailings pond
- 6 Western tailings pond
- 7 Northern ditch
- 8 Northern berm
- 9 Eastern berm
- 10 Central ditch
- 11 South Idaho location

Ore was conveyed to the ground surface at the Idaho Shaft headframe (1) and hoist house (2). Prior to 1936, mercury was used to recover gold at the old 20-stamp mill (3), and tailings from this early process, as well as tailings from “toll milling” of ore imported from other mines, were reportedly deposited as a slurry in the unlined eastern tailings pond (5). Cyanide was used from 1936 onward at the new mill and cyanide plant (4), and a slurry of cyanide-treated tailings were reportedly deposited as slurry in the unlined western tailings pond (6). Tailings slurry was conveyed via ditches (7 and 10). The Northern Berm (8) was used to retain the tailings. The larger Eastern Berm (9) was previously associated with a lumber mill on adjacent property to the east.



Appendix B:

09/11/23 email from Assessor's Office, re: APN changes.

Jenifer Triplett <Jenifer.Triplett@nevadacountyca.gov>

Sep 11, 2023, 9:43 AM

to me, assessor ▾

Dear Mr. Vaughan,

Thank you for contacting the Nevada County Assessor's Office.

There was a lot line adjust for the parcels that you mentioned. Here are the new numbers for the parcels:

09-550-13	new numbers 009-550-031-000 & 009-550-032-000
09-550-14	new numbers 009-550-042-000
09-550-15	new numbers 009-550-037-000 & 009-550-038-000
09-560-08	new numbers 009-560-035-000, 009-560-036-000, 009-560-037-000, 009-560-038-000 & 009-560-039-000
09-560-02	new numbers 009-560-032-000, 009-560-033-000 & 009-560-034-000

I have included the Assessor Parcel Maps for you to be able to view the above listed parcels.

Kindest regards,



My hours are M-F 7:30am-4:00pm

Appendix C:

Environalysis October 1979 report
prepared for North Star Rock



VIEW TOWARD NORTHEAST OF NEIGHBORING COMMERCIAL
PROPERTY. NOTE CONCRETE MINE HEADFRAME.
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN FROM PROPERTY EAST OF PROJECT SITE.





VIEW TOWARD EAST OF LAUSMANN LOGGING POND .



Appendix D:

February 1985 Amendment to Use Permit U79-41
for North Star Rock

Amendment to Use Permit U79-41

Idaho-Maryland Mine Rock Crushing Project

Prepared for:

North Star Rock Products Corporation
P. O. Box 908, Grass Valley, CA 95945
(916) 273-1177

Prepared by:

Foothill Planning Services
P. O. Box 2461, Grass Valley, CA 95945
(916) 273-8941

February 1985

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS/MITIGATION	
Use Permit	5
Grading Plan	6
Reclamation Plan	6
CONCLUSIONS	7
LIST OF EXHIBITS	
Exhibit 1 - Site Plan.	3

INTRODUCTION

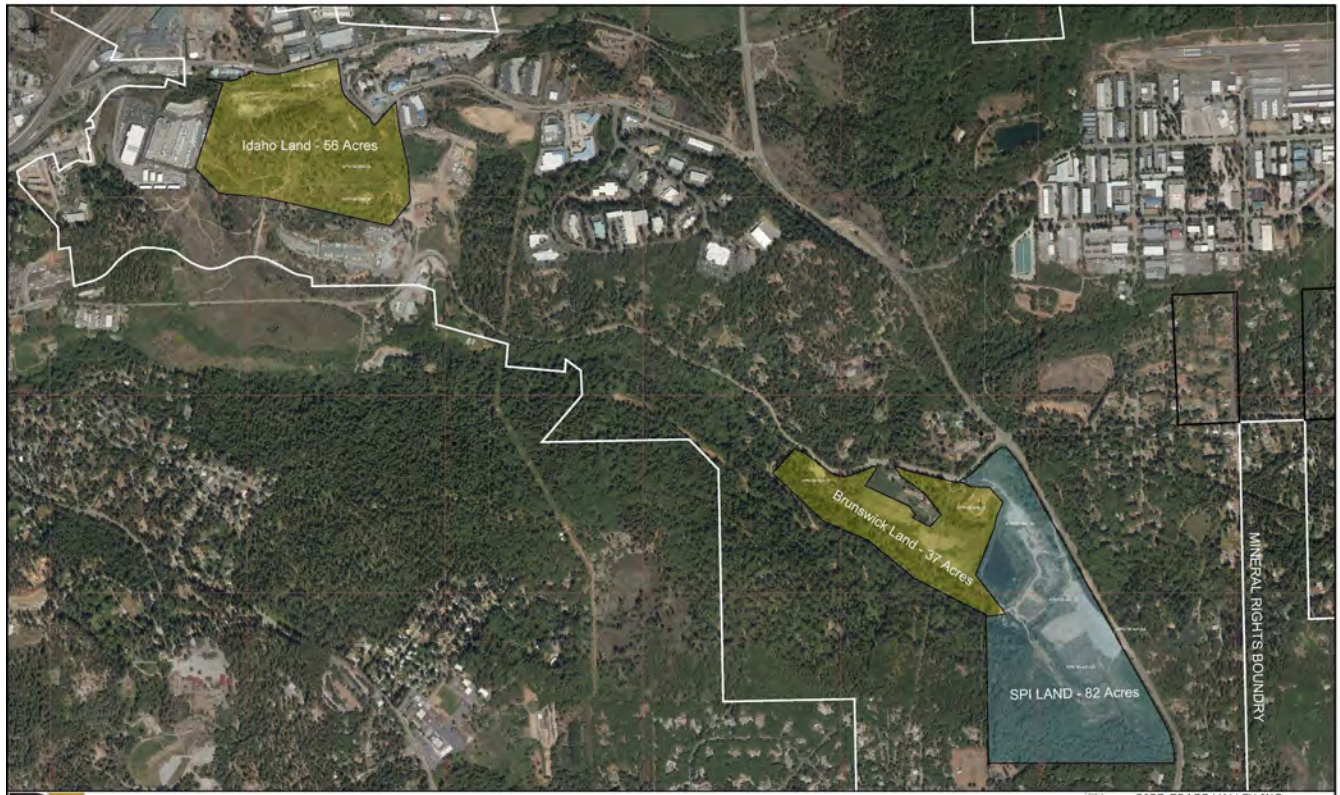
The enclosed information is intended to provide details of a proposed amendment to the existing Use Permit (U79-41) for the Idaho-Maryland Mine Rock crushing project. In January-March of 1980, the Nevada County Advisory Review Committee and Nevada County Planning Commission reviewed and approved a use permit application and reclamation plan for North Star Rock Products Corporation to operate a rock harvesting and crushing operation on leased lands adjacent to Idaho-Maryland Road. In addition, an Erosion Control Plan was prepared and approved for the site. Subsequent to project approval, the rock crushing operation has been conducted for approximately four years without complaints from adjacent landowners and within the conditions and parameters established by the County and other responsible agencies. As of this date, the project has basically been completed with on-site sand and rock reserves having been harvested, processed and sold. In addition, with the exception of some final grading, clean-up and equipment removal, the approved reclamation of the site has been completed.

The currently proposed amendment to the existing use permit is resultant from two primary factors, (1) the mine tailing resource on-site has been totally depleted and (2) the existence of a proposed shopping center on property located directly to the west and adjacent to the existing rock crushing operation. Although the North Star property lies within the jurisdiction of the County, the parcel to the west exists within the Grass Valley city limits. On February 19, 1985, the Grass Valley Planning Commission approved as adequate an Environmental Impact Report for a proposed shopping center known as Wolf Creek Plaza on property adjacent to the North Star project. Within the next one to two months, Grass Valley will undertake site plan review, tentative and final map review, and review of the grading plans and improvement plans for the proposed project. In anticipation of project approval of the proposed Wolf Creek Plaza, and to maximize coordination of permits required to accommodate the shopping center, the herein proposed use permit amendment is being undertaken.

Developers of the proposed Wolf Creek Plaza, Mall Development Inc., and project engineers, GHD Associates, are proposing to transport soils and rock materials excavated from the shopping center site to the North Star property to be utilized for two purposes, (1) as a raw resource to be crushed to extend the life of the existing gravel sales operation and (2) as fill materials in the old tailings pond area to create an engineered building pad for future industrial uses. To accommodate this proposal, the existing North Star use permit must be amended by the Nevada County Planning Commission to allow importation of materials from off-site and the Nevada County Building Department must approve the drainage and grading plans for the engineered fill (said plans having been previously submitted to the Department).

Appendix E:

Rise Grass Valley - Surface Land Holdings



TITLE: RISE GRASS VALLEY INC.			
Surface Land Holdings			
Drawn by: ASB	Scale: 1"=400'		
Date:	Approval:	Date:	
File:			

Appendix F:

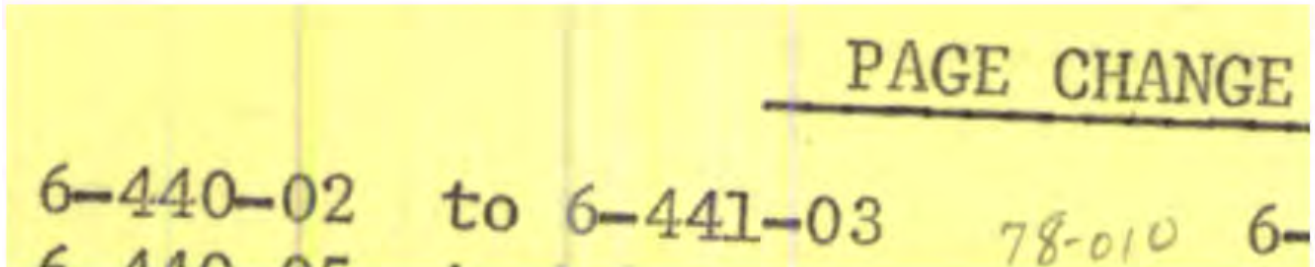
09/15/23 email from Assessor's Office

Jenifer Triplett

to me ▾

John,

So, this is the only thing I can find in our records about 06-440-02:



The current APN for this in 006-441-003-000.

Appendix G:

1964 U64-30 and U64-31 Use Permit Application

February 11, 1965

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF USE PERMIT APPLICATION
Approved by Board of Supervisors on Appeal

TO: Brunswick Timber Products Corp.
P. O. Box 67
Nevada City, California

Use Permit No. 248-A
P.C. 156(A-1)064-30
APP 6-440-02
Certified No. 298591

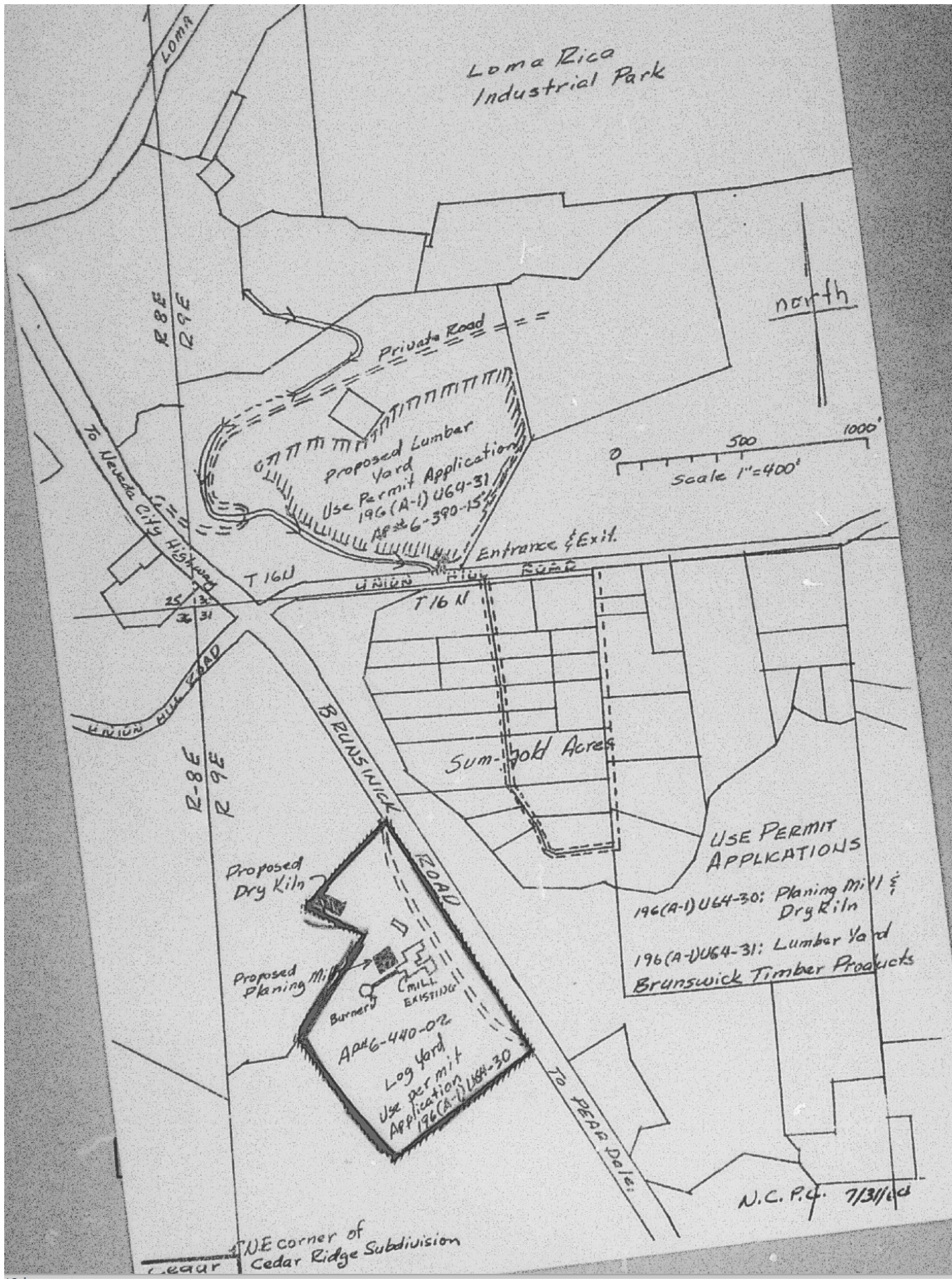
C
O
P
Y

You are hereby notified that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, after hearing held on the seventeenth day of November, 1964, did duly consider your Notice of Appeal received by the County Clerk and Auditor September 22, 1964, of the decision of the Nevada County Planning Commission to deny your application filed on the twenty-third day of July, 1964, for a use permit under Section 7, A-1 District, of Nevada County Zoning Planning Ordinance No. 195, as amended, for the following purpose:

Construction, operation and maintenance of a planing mill in an A-1 Zoning District on property owned by the applicant at the address of southwest of the intersection of Brunswick Road and Union Hill Road; Assessor's Parcel No. 6-440-02; said parcel of land being legally described hereinafter.

After said hearing and upon the testimony thereat taken, the said Board of Supervisors, on February 1, 1965, reversed the action of the Planning Commission as you were previously notified by Certified Mail received by you September 22, 1964, and you are hereby notified that the use permit applied for is hereby granted subject to the following conditions:

1. The planing mill shall be completely enclosed in a building as far as practical and still allow the free flow of material in and out.
2. Noise suppressants as required by the Industrial Safety Commission shall be installed on the machinery.
3. A blower of sufficient capacity to complete combustion insofar as possible within the burner shall be maintained on the burner.
4. The burner shall be maintained in good operating condition.



USE PERMIT APPLICATION
NEVADA COUNTY ZONING ENABLING ORDINANCE NO. 196

Instructions:

File two copies of the application and attachments, together with the application fee, not later than 12 days prior to the regular planning commission meeting at which action is desired to allow time for giving notice of public hearing. One copy will be returned and one will remain on file. The applicant or his representative should be present at the meeting. PLEASE print or type.

<u>Brunswick Timber Products Corp., 265-2417</u> name of applicant: telephone:	<u>same</u> name of owner of property:
<u>P. O. Box 67</u> street or p.o. box address:	street or p.o. box address:
<u>Nevada City, Calif.</u> city: state: zip code:	city: state: zip code:
applicant is (check one): owner // lessee // purchaser // agent //	former owner if recent purchase:

Application for use permit is hereby made to the planning commission under the terms of Nevada County Zoning Enabling Ordinance No. 196, as amended, for operation and maintenance of the following described use of land and/or buildings within a _____ zoning district:

Lumber drying and storage yard

Number of units _____; Water supply NID; Sewage disposal None needed

ADDRESS OF PROPERTY (show location sketch on back of application):

X North east corner Brunswick & Union Hill Roads Sec 31, T16N, R 9E

ATTACH complete and accurate legal description of property based on deed or other recorded instrument.

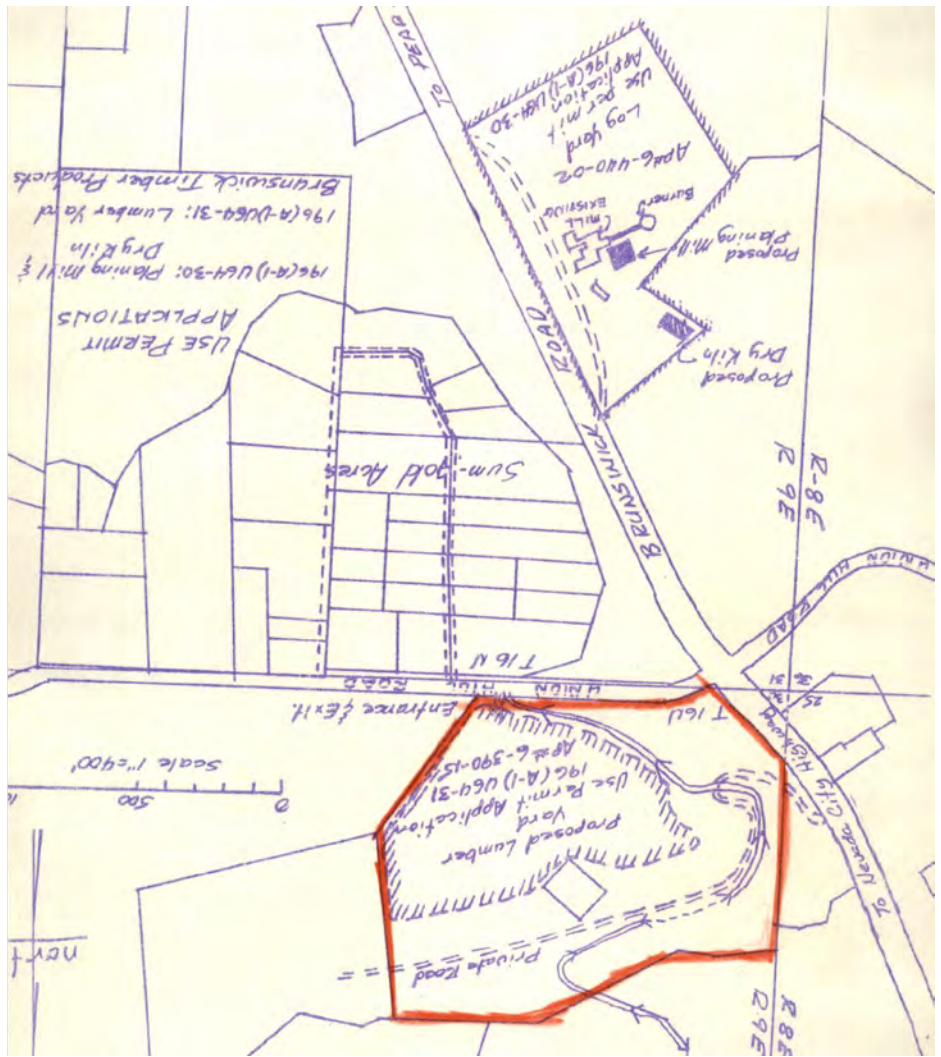
ATTACH Plot Plan drawn to scale, showing property lines, existing and proposed buildings and their uses, parking spaces, access to public roads, signs, landscaping, drainage, sewage disposal, water supply and such other information as will aid the planning commission to fully understand the use applied for.

APPLICATION FEE: \$10.00 Make checks payable to: Nevada County Treasurer.

I (we) declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is a true and correct statement; that it is the representation of the applicant that the use applied for, if approved, will be conducted as stated herein and as shown on the attached plot plan, and that such conditions as attached to the granting of the use permit will be observed.

Brunswick Timber Products Corp.
July 23, 1964 date
by: [Signature] Pres. signature of applicant

RECEIPT NO. 244; DATE July 23, 1964; RECEIVED BY [Signature]



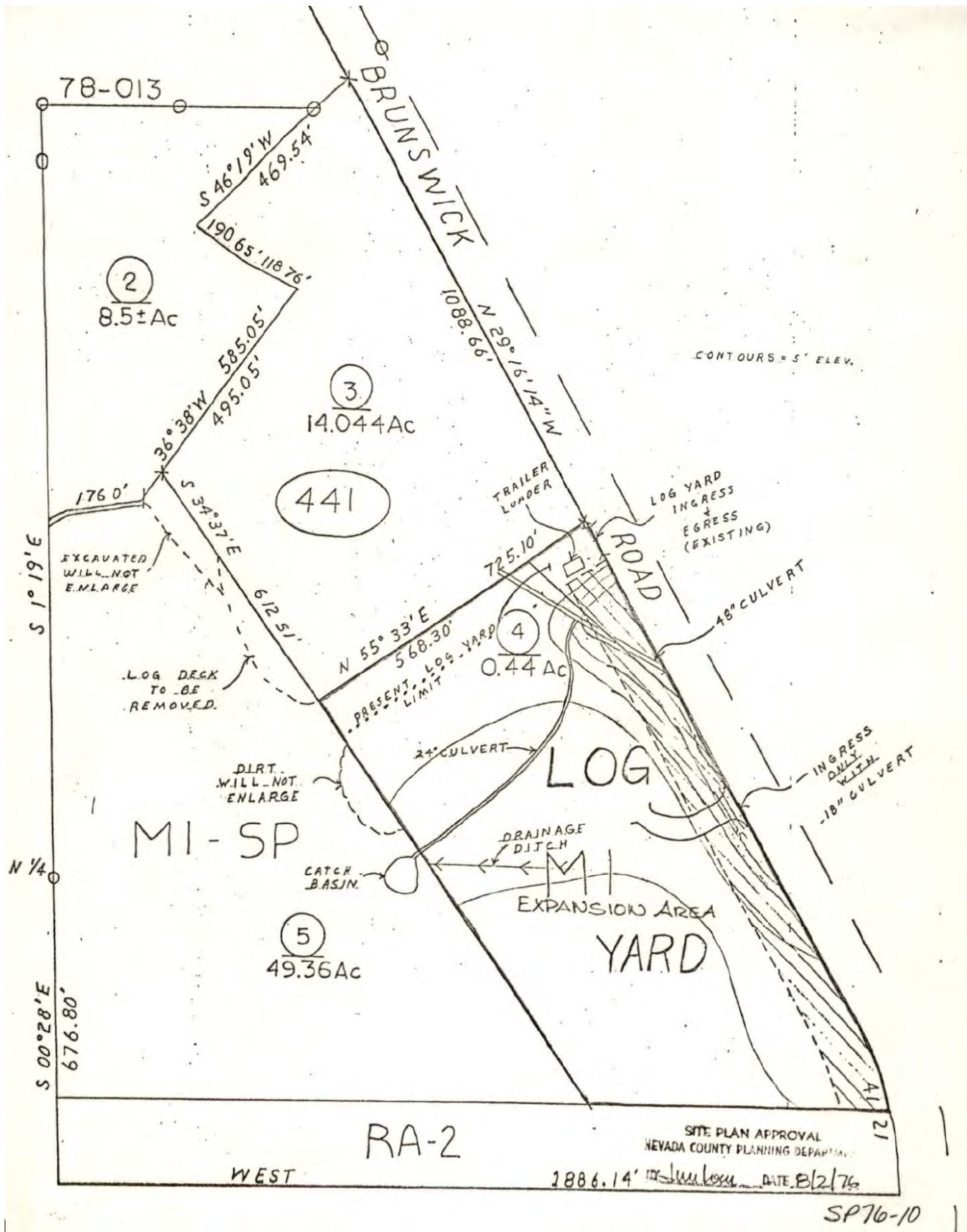
Appendix H:
1976 Site Plan Application SP76-10

COUNTY CLERK OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA
Courthouse
Nevada City, California 95959

NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Please file this Negative Declaration pursuant to Section 21152 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California.

Responsible Agency: County of Nevada, California	Contact Person James Louie	Telephone: 265-2461 X260
Address: Courthouse	City: Nevada County: Nevada	Zip Code: 95959
Project Title: Site Plan SP76-10	Area in Acres: 20 acres	Zoning: M1
Project Address: Brunswick Mill located on the southwest side of Brunswick Road, west of G.V.	Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 6-441-05	
Project Description or Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries: Site plan (SP76-10) for the proposed expansion of the Brunswick Mill log storage yard and the relocation of the existing scaling platform. The property involved is the site of the existing Brunswick Mill located on the southwest side of Brunswick Rd., west of Grass Valley.		
Finding That the Proposed Project Will Not Have a Significant Effect on the Environment: specifically in the following areas: (1) it will not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment or curtail the range of the environment; (2) it will not achieve short-term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals; (3) it will have no impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable; (4) it will not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. If the project is approved and if there are any potential environmental impacts, they may be mitigated through conditions of approval on the site plan.		
Date of Finding: June 24, 1976	Attest: James Louie Signed: <u>James Louie</u> For Responsible Agency <u>Asst. Planning Director</u> Title	File With County Clerk: ENDORSED FILED JUN 28 1976 MELEBA J. POLGLASE Linda Munoz



Appendix J:
1990 Site Plan MSP90-002

COUNTY OF NEVADA - STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PLANNING AGENCY/PLANNING DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 6100
Nevada City, CA 95959-6100

(916) 265-1440

LAND USE APPLICATION

Applicants should check the type of application for which you are applying:

Use Permit: _____ Area Variance: _____ Site Plan: XX

General Plan Amendment: From: _____ To: _____

Zone Change: From: _____ To: _____

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Full Name of Applicant Bohemia Telephone 273-9572

Address of Applicant P.O. BOX 2027 Grass Valley, CA. 95945

Full Name of Property Owner(s) Bohemia

Address of Property Owner(s) Same

Telephone: _____

Contact Person/Representative: Karl W. Mundt Telephone 273-9572

Address of Contact Person Same

Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 06-441-05

Acreage: Total: _____ This Project: _____

Street Address or nearest access road: Brunswick Road

Water Source: NID Sewage Disposal: _____

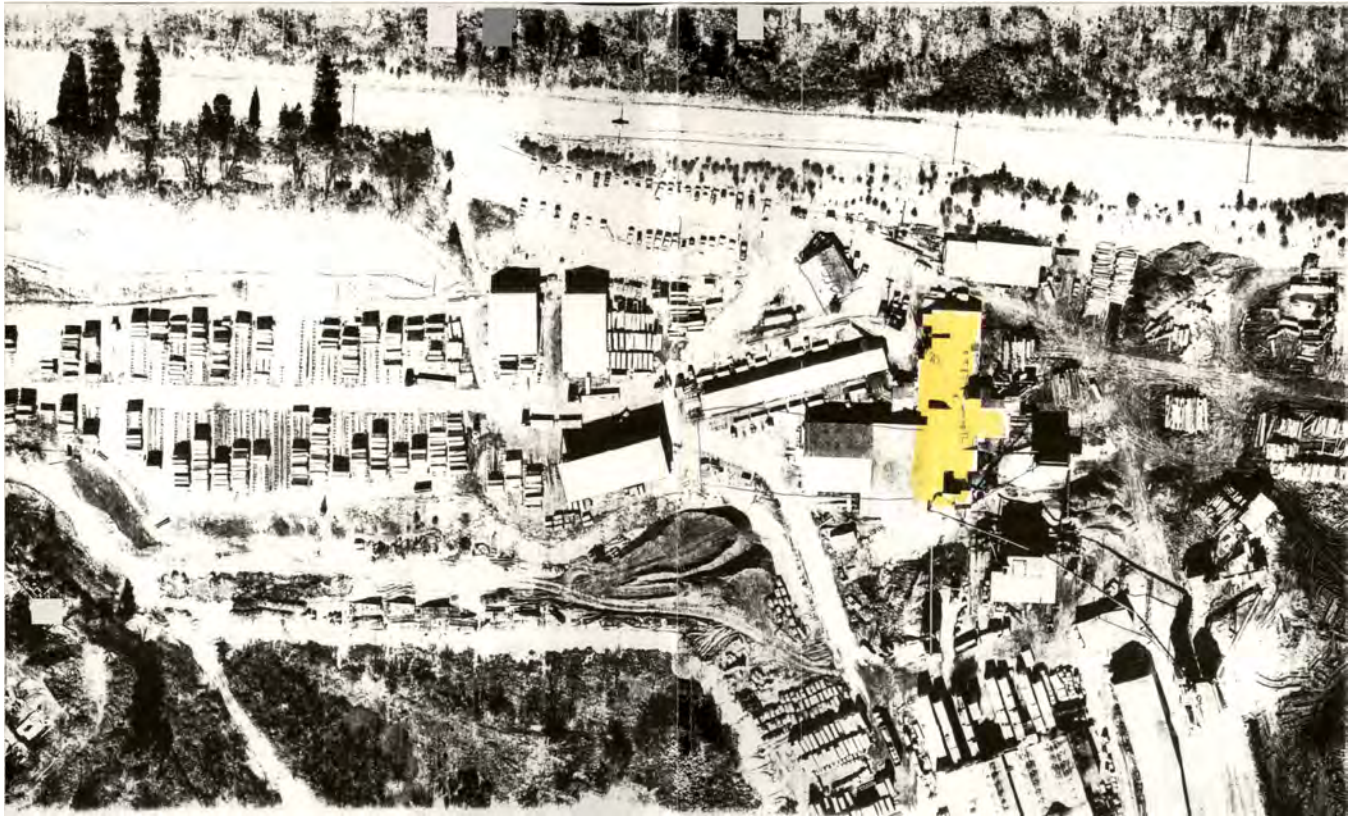
Describe the project proposed by this application

New Sawmill Building, Same Size, Purpose, and Capacity of Existing Bldg

I hereby acknowledge that I have read this application and state that the information given is correct. I agree to comply with all County ordinances and State laws regulating property development.

Signature of applicant: Karl W Mundt for Bohemia Date Jan 25, 1990

Signature of Representative: Karl W Mundt Date _____



Appendix K:

NV5 Phase I-II ESA Report 06/16/20

4 HISTORICAL USE INFORMATION

Historical site use information was obtained through a review of readily-available historical records such as aerial photographs, historical topographic maps, historical Sanborn® Fire Insurance Maps, city directories, and regulatory agency files.

4.1 HISTORICAL SOURCES

Site use information was obtained through a review of the following list of historical sources. Copies of the historical sources are provided in Appendix B. The results of the review of these sources are summarized below.

- **Aerial Photographs:** Aerial photographs obtained from EDR were reviewed for the following years: 1939, 1947, 1952, 1962, 1963, 1973, 1975, 1984, 1987, 1998, 2006, 2009, 2012, and 2016.
- **Sanborn® Fire Insurance Maps:** Sanborn® Fire Insurance Maps were not available for the subject property area.
- **Topographic Maps:** The following maps provided by EDR were reviewed: USGS Smartsville, CA Quadrangle 30-minute series topographic maps produced in 1888, 1891, 1892, 1894 and 1895; and USGS Grass Valley, CA Quadrangle 7.5-minute series topographic maps produced in 1949, 1950, 1973, 1995, 1998, and 2012.
- **City Directories:** A search for available city directories was performed by EDR. Directories from 1970 to 2014 were searched in approximately 5-year intervals.
- **Nevada County Community Development Agency:** NV5 requested records for the subject property from the Nevada County Community Development Agency (CDA). Records provided by the CDA are described below.
- **Grass Valley Building Department:** NV5 requested records for the subject property from the Grass Valley Building Department (GVBD). GVBD, which did not require building permits prior to 1961, did not have any records for the subject property post-1961.
- **Previous Environmental Reports:** Historical information from previous environmental reports prepared for the subject property are included in the summaries below. Historical research in previous reports included review of numerous historical mining maps from the late 1800s and early 1900s. The reports are discussed in Section 5, and excerpts from some of the reports are presented in Appendix B.
- **Interviews:** Information resulting from interviews of persons with knowledge of the site history are presented in Section 8 and are included in the summaries below.

4.2 HISTORICAL REVIEW SUMMARY – SUBJECT PROPERTY

Historical site activities have included gold mining and lumber milling. Selected historical site features are depicted on Sheet 1.

Mining

Mining activities (predominantly lode gold mining) included the Union Hill Mine and the New Brunswick Mine.

According to records presented in Appendix B, which were previously compiled by EERG (2007), the Union Hill Mine was established circa 1854. An ore mill and hoist were constructed in 1865. Johnston (1939) maps the Union Hill Mine in the westernmost portion of the northern end of the subject property, and an inclined shaft at this location dipping to the southwest. The mine was reportedly operated until approximately 1870 to a maximum depth of approximately 300 feet bgs. The mine was reportedly reopened in 1900 and operated until 1911, extending the shaft to 600 feet bgs. The mine was again reopened in 1914 and operated until 1918. During this period, the shaft was extended to 800 feet bgs, tungsten-containing scheelite was also mined, and a new hoist, air compressor, Cornish pump driven by a 12-foot Pelton wheel, and a 20-stamp mill. Following its closure, the mine was purchased by Idaho-Maryland Mines Company, which was subsequently absorbed by The Metal Exploration Company. The 20-stamp mill was moved offsite to another mine. The Union Hill Mine was not reopened, but the subsurface workings were reportedly used by the operators of the New Brunswick Mine. Several small structures were historically associated with the Union Hill Mine operations.

According to records presented in Appendix B, which were previously compiled by EERG (2007), the New Brunswick Mine was established circa 1909. Johnston (1939) maps the Brunswick Vertical Shaft in the eastern portion of the northern end of the property, near the existing reinforced-concrete silo that remains at the site today. A railroad spur was added, extending from the existing East Bennett Road to the mine. In 1910, the mine was reportedly closed due to an inflow of water at a depth of approximately 443 feet bgs. The mine reportedly reopened in 1915, and water was reportedly drained with pumps via a cross-cut from the old Brunswick Mine. Johnston (1939) maps the portal of the Brunswick Inclined Shaft (associated with the old Brunswick Mine) approximately 1,000 feet north of the subject property, dipping towards the southwest. A new steel head frame, 20-stamp mill, and a cyanide plant were reportedly constructed at the New Brunswick Mine on the subject property. The mine closed again in 1918, by which time the shaft extended to 1,200 feet bgs. Several corrugated metal buildings were present at the mine, including an office, assay office, hoist house, mill building, carpenter shop, drying furnace building, blacksmith and machine shop, garage, transformer house, powder magazine, and store house. The mine reopened in 1922 when the shaft was again dewatered, and operated until 1927. Idaho-Maryland Mining Corporation (IMMC) reportedly acquired the New Brunswick Mine and began dewatering the mine in 1933. The shaft was extended to 3,300 feet bgs, and a Marcy mill and a regrind mill were reportedly installed. The mine did not operate during World War II but reopened after the war and continued operating until 1956. Structures have been removed from the site since that time. In 1997 the remaining concrete foundations were removed except for one reinforced concrete silo (ore bin) and the shaft collar.

Lumber Milling

Lumber milling was performed at central and southeastern portions of the subject property in the late 1950s to the early 2000s. The facility was referred to as Grass Valley Saw Mill, Bohemia Saw Mill, and Sierra Pacific Mill. Features associated with the sawmill activities included a main sawmill building, two sorter buildings (one constructed in 1987), an office building, transformer, slot feeder, conveyors, timber racks and log storage areas. Recycle ponds were used to collect and recycle surface water runoff for irrigation of logs. Prior to 1984, pesticides were used to

Appendix L:

11/14/70 letter from Marion Ghidotti, re: Use Permit U79-41

Sharon

HASKELL PEAK LUMBER CO.

426 Commercial Street

Nevada City, CA

265-2060

Nov 15, 1979

RECEIVED

NOV 16 1979

NEVADA COUNTY
CLERK'S OFFICE

Nevada Co Planning Dept
Nevada City, California

Attention Sharon Poivin:

In 1964 or 1965 there was a rock crusher on one of the Dumps
of the Idaho Mine property , for about four months -
Since then people have been coming in and taking rock without
permission.

That is why I am selling what rock is left.

Marion G. Hildreth

Appendix M:
Planning Staff Report, re: U79-41

Scenic Aspects:

The project area is relatively uninspiring from a distance. The light-green brush and unsymmetrical digger pines offer little shade and lots of spines to persons walking through the site. The mine wastes are interesting due to their unique topography and varied mineral patterns in the individual rocks. The white mill sand piles are also interesting. There are no buildings on the site.

aesthetics

The project land has high visibility from surrounding lands, including the Golden Center Freeway and the hills of Grass Valley.

Historical Aspects

Little remains of this illustrious mine except the concrete head frame and some metal buildings on the east adjoining property. Two concrete pillars, used as overflows for the mill sand pond, remain on site. Two mining drifts, rock bridge abutments, and mining rubbish can be found north of the long tailings pile.

The earliest hard rock mine on the property started in 1851 after the Placer miners had worked Wolf Creek. The Idaho was discovered in 1863 but little work was done until the Coleman Brothers bought it in 1867. They organized the Idaho Quartz Mining Company and struck an excellent vein of gold quartz. The mine produced \$12,000,000 of gold up to 1893. The Idaho Quartz Mine and the Maryland Mine merged soon after and formed the Idaho-Maryland Mines Company, which employed a thousand men through the lucrative 1930's. A World War Two mandate closed all the local mines as non-essential uses of fuel and they remained closed until the late 1940's. After re-opening the mine, which involved removal of water from the tunnels and extensive re-timbering the mine closed in 1956 due to excessive operating costs.

The site was then used as a rock crushing project for several years, and other rock and sand removing operations have continued until the present time.

Existing Uses

The project site is unused except for the occasional removal of rock and sand wastes by the owner of the property. Lumber is also stored on the property.

Existing Structures

The only remaining structures on the site are two concrete towers which were used as the mill sand pond overflows and a small rock bridge abutment. (See next page for photographs of site)

Appendix N:
The Union, 02/07/1991

2-7-91

Grass Valley-Nevada City, Calif.

Canadian firm may reopen GV mine

By CHARLES GALLARDO
The Union

Reactivating the Idaho-Maryland Mine is being considered by a Canadian-based corporation, *The Union* learned Wednesday.

Consolidated Del Norte Ventures Inc. of Vancouver, British Columbia, has negotiated a 10-year mining lease and option to purchase the Grass Valley mine for \$5.92 million, according to Robert Crompton, Consolidated Del Norte director.

"We have no illusions on this thing," Crompton said. "We're willing to spend \$100,000 this year to see if it is possible."

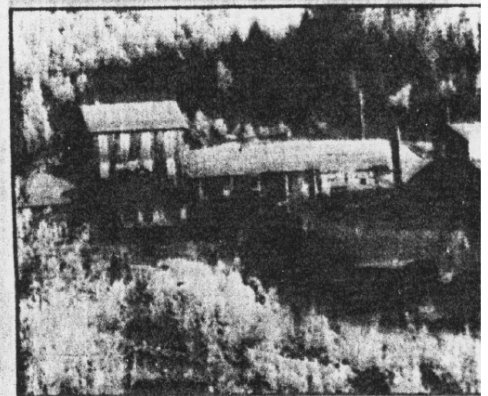
The mine is owned by Mary Bouma, Erica Erickson and Bill Toms, according to the Nevada County Assessor's office.

In November, Del Norte decided to investigate whether the Idaho-Maryland still had ore or unexplored tonnage potential, Crompton said. The mine engineering firm of James Askew Associates Inc. of Colorado was hired to examine mine records and Condor Earth Technologies was retained to explore permitting

See MINE Page 12



The old main shaft of the New Brunswick mine (above) at the intersection of East Bennett and Brunswick roads is one entry to the Idaho-Maryland Mine. At right, is the Idaho-Maryland mine complex during its heyday.



Mine

2.7.91

Continued from Page 1

procedures for the project, Crompton said.

Based on favorable findings of the initial investigation, Del Norte entered into negotiations to acquire the 2,750-acre mining concession, he said.

"What's very critical is the environmental aspect," Crompton said. "It's of prime importance we have good relations with the community."

"There would be a lot of environmental review involved," said Grass Valley Planning Director Bill Roberts. "Traffic, water, pumping out the mine and stuff like that would have to be dealt with."

Access to the mine is located off Idaho-Maryland Road in between Sutton Way and Whispering Pines Drive and at the New Brunswick mine shaft at the corner of Brunswick and East Bennett roads. It consists of 150 miles of underground tunnels to depths of

3,280 feet.

The Idaho-Maryland produced about 2.5 million ounces of gold since it was discovered in 1851, Crompton said. The mine closed in 1942 under the War Production Order and reopened in 1945, he said. It closed again in 1956 and has not been worked since.

The Idaho-Maryland was the second largest underground gold producer in California history. The largest was the nearby Empire Mine in Grass Valley. It produced 6.5 million ounces of gold before it closed in 1956.

The Idaho-Maryland Mine is filled with water but Crompton said that does not present a serious problem because of a large drainage ditch located 500 feet from the New Brunswick shaft. He also noted the water could be an asset due to the demand for water during a five-year drought.

The next phase of the project, according to Crompton, is for Askew to review mine and mill records to determine how much gold is in the mine and Condor

must conduct a further review of permitting procedures.

Del Norte was formed in 1979 to acquire chrome claims in Del Norte County, Crompton said. The firm spent about \$1 million on the project but was unsuccessful in opening the mine, he added.

"I feel confident about the (Idaho-Maryland) project but we have a long way to go," he said. "It will take over a year to get permitted if we can get it permitted."

He said Del Norte plans to come to Grass Valley next week to set up offices and start working on the project locally.