



County of Del Norte County
Board of Supervisors
981 "H" Street, Ste. 200
Crescent City, California 95531

Phone
(707) 464-7204

Fax
(707) 464-1165

July 8, 2014

Oregon Water Resources Department
Attn: Phillip C. Ward, Director
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A
Salem, OR 97301-1271

Wild Rivers Ranger District
Attn: Robert Shoemaker
2164 N.E. Spaldning Avenue
Grants Pass, OR 97526

RE: Limited License for Cleopatra Check Drilling Program (LL-1533)

Dear Director Ward and Ranger Shoemaker:

The Del Norte County Board of Supervisors representing Del Norte County, California directly south of the proposed project site has reviewed the limited information submitted by the Red Flat Nickel Corporation for its application for a Limited Use Water License associated with exploratory drilling in the area. This Board has voted unanimously to oppose the issuance of a permit for a Limited Water Use License for the Cleopatra Check Drilling Program.

After considering the information available in the permit application, it is readily apparent that the project has the potential to cause significant adverse environmental impacts within the immediate watershed and subsequently adversely impact the overall watershed of the Smith River. The Smith River is the indirect source for many water users in Del Norte County with the largest user being the City of Crescent City. It is with this in mind the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors adamantly opposes this application or any application that would result in future strip mining in the Smith River watershed.

The lack of information and inadequate analysis of the potential impacts of the project significantly concerns the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors. In addition, Del Norte County residents have expressed their concerns to both the Board of Supervisors and Crescent City Council at separate public meetings and it is obvious this application is not in the public interest. Del Norte County has not received any comments or letters supporting the actions requested of the OWRD associated with the above application.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application and please feel free to contact Del Norte County if your staff requires any clarification or additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Finigan".

David Finigan, Chair
Del Norte County
Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Ron Wyden
Senator Jeff Merkley
Senator Diane Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Peter DeFazio
Congressman Jarred Huffman
John Corbett, Chair North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board