

February 26, 2017

To whom it may concern:

My specific concern relative to the Crystal Geyser EIR is the failure to address the safety of the surrounding community if members of our community should be hired to work under conditions workers have experienced in other Crystal Geyser factories.

The Crystal Geyser factory in Weed is their newest such resource extraction business in the western USA, and already one of their employees has been crushed to death due to what is believed to have been unsafe working conditions.

As with every case where an employee is killed on the job, the proper authorities have undertaken a thorough investigation of the workplace conditions. I have been in constant communications with the Redding Field Office of CalOSHA, and their State headquarters in Sacramento. I have made it my job to keep my neighbors apprised of the progress of the investigators.

The most recent information available from the State of California indicates that this is a very serious case and it may well take six months for CalOSHA to complete their investigation, file charges, and assess penalties. I have been told that I am on the distribution list for when the case is made public, and have been asked to call again on March 15th. to determine if the case is on schedule.

A thorough review by Occupational Health and Safety is one of the very best ways for the public to know how Crystal Geyser values the lives of their employees. It seems only reasonable that this threat to the wellbeing of the environment, namely the humans who live here and may work there, should be addressed before the project is approved.

Please ensure that the final EIR contains the findings of CalOSHA relative to the crushing death of our neighbor at work at Crystal Geyser, and to the danger of an unsafe workplace environment.

I presently serve my community as its Town Historian. I can tell you that our community has had a bottling plant in the past. It was at the edge of the City Limits. It's product was mostly produced for export to the south. No one thought much about George Nicholas putting gas engines and wood fired steam boilers in the business district. When the building caught fire, it burned two city blocks. Sixteen families were burned out. Between 60-70 people were made homeless. Four of the town's largest businesses were destroyed in addition to the two year old Capitol Bottling Works. Nicholas left town, smoking ruins behind him.

Many of us would like to ensure that history does not repeat itself.

Thank you for your consideration.

Perry Sims

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