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Hello my name is Stephen Gullick and I run a small business called Gullick Machinery. I have been employed by Hawkeswood mining for various tasks related to gold mining. The income this has provided has enabled me feed and clothe my four children.

My family farmed in this area over 100 years ago. And as such I feel a strong connection with this area. It would be great to see Miller's flat boom once again and breathe some new life into the local community. Miller's flat has always had a strong connection with farming and gold mining and I would like to see that continue.

I support this mine for a variety of reasons,

Firstly; The work it will bring to the region. I think it is obvious to all that should the mine go ahead, it will create well-paying jobs within the area. This will have a flow on effect that will carry through to many local businesses. The community thrives when local businesses thrive.

Secondly; the mine will add to the GDP for the country, which will bring in much needed dollars to our New Zealand economy. At this time as a country we could *do with all the help* we can get.

*Thirdly;* The *mine* will restore the site, leaving it in better shape than before it started. Leaving a better looking more farmable piece of land.

I have spoken to many locals who support the mine and it seems to me the vast majority of people would like to see this project go ahead.

There are a very few vocal people against the mine and I do not see why the hysterical illogical voices of the few should drown out the many. Especially as all the arguments they have bought against the mine have been well and truly put to rest by Experts in the various Fields. It seems illogical to me that the voice of those opposed who in all likelihood will be unaffected, should carry more weight than all those who are for the mine.

It seems to me that some people just hate progress.

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I hope that in making your decision the panel takes into account the real likelihood of those who will be affected. To me it is obvious the mine should be granted consent given all the potential it has for the area. You only have to look to the Waikaia gold project where the dredge currently located at Miller's flat came from to see how the ground could look after mining is finished. I lived in that area while the operation was going on and only saw and heard positive things about that mine which would be very similar in operation to what Hawkeswood is proposing.

I think it is worth noting that everything humans use and consume has to be either grown or mined. Those who are anti-mining ought to put their money where their mouth is and quit using any product that is mined.

I think it is awesome to see someone willing to invest in the Local Area.

I believe that it is this panel's job to deliver the best outcome for the area and to me granting consent for Hawkeswoods proposed mine will deliver the best outcome for both the Miller's Flat area and New Zealand as a whole. I would ask that when you are making your decision you can consider the local school, the local businesses and the productivity of New Zealand.

Thanks for listening to me

Cheers