

January 29, 2025

To: Co-Chairs Frederick and Levy and Members of the Committee  
[Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources](#)

Re: [HB 5010](#) – Department of Geology and Mineral Industries Budget – Support

Paramount Gold Nevada's Grassy Mountain Gold Project in Malheur County Oregon is the first ever applicant for a chemical processing mine in the State of Oregon which provides us with unique insights into the permitting process and the integral role played by the MLRR's Consolidated Mining Permit Lead.

Grassy Mountain is envisioned as a small footprint underground mine that will employ roughly 100 people once in operation including highly trained professionals, skilled labor and administrative roles, allowing the mine to be an important contributor to the local economy.

While Grassy Mountain's current permitting process started in 2017 with the collection of baseline data, the November 2019 submission of the Consolidated Permit Application (CPA) initiated the continuous engagement with Oregon's permitting agencies as coordinated by DOGAMI and the MLRR program.

The introduction in 2020 of the Project Coordinator, funded largely by Paramount through the cost-recovery program was immediately helpful in managing the volume of communication and coordination required amongst the agencies implementing the permitting process for the first time.

As the project activities and demands increased with Paramount's updated CPA submission in 2021, the Project Coordinator role moving to full-time streamlined the requirements and requests of the permitting agencies in a manner that allowed for improved transparency, clarity and alignment between the agencies and Paramount on a timely basis.

Permitting is a complex activity which needs to balance numerous stakeholder interests, and our experience has shown that the support of appropriately skilled personnel within the MLRR program has been critical in helping Grassy Mountain to receive the first ever Notice to Proceed and completeness determination in 2024. We look forward to ongoing support in completing the work required to be fully permitted for construction and operation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



Rachel Goldman  
CEO and Director, Paramount Gold Nevada

Cc: Ruarri J. Day-Stirrat, Director and Oregon State Geologist