

From: [REDACTED]
To: [F5-comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-hell-canyon](#)
Subject: [External Email]NEWARK EXPLORATION DRILLING PROJECT
Date: Tuesday, February 14, 2023 7:49:10 PM

[External Email]

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Sirs,

I, and my neighbors, are extremely opposed to the proposed F3 Mining exploration in the National Forest area in Custer. This would be an abomination to our Forest and its inhabitants, not to mention the disruption of flow and contamination of our well water.

I know you might say that this is just an exploratory project, but if they didn't have even an inkling that there would be gold found here, would they have gone through the trouble of acquiring millions of dollars from investors to fund this. And when they do find that it is viable for them to excavate for the gold, do you think this won't turn into the incredible horror in plain site as can be seen in Lead?

On Road 1G there is a pond full of amphibians which your own Biologists (8 years ago, in front of me) stated needed to have the road shut to motorized vehicles to safeguard the forest environment (and the road was closed - until very recently). Not more than 50 yards from that pond is a Bat cave, complete with a Forest Service Gate covering the entrance to ensure that the all important Bat colony not be disturbed. Does anyone in your Office even know this? Or do these things no longer matter because out of State money is in play!?

Other than the greed of these MINNESOTA persons, what possible need would there be to destroy this eco-system (yes DESTROY - for I have seen this before in other locations). They are not in search of something that could benefit anyone other than the greedy and the shallow. In fact such a project would cause a huge dent in Tourism (who wants to visit an area that looks like a group of bombs were dropped there?), greatly devalue the property value (who wants to live near that crap), and cause extreme devastation to the quality of life for the Citizens who live here. This is a very quiet and peaceful Community, many of whom are retired and deservedly free from the stress of their working years. Why would you think this would be a good idea to disrupt all of this, for the sake of two greedy Minnesotans?

We, of Custer, are firmly opposed to this Plan, and will do anything to prevent it. We hope you will understand and use good sense to avoid all of what would follow if you gave your "Go Ahead" to this project. You may contact me in any way you would like (phone number and address are below), or I can have our Attorneys contact you.

I thank you for your consideration, in advance.

Gary Placco
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]