

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FS-comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-hell-canyon](#)  
**Subject:** [External Email]Oppose Newark Exploration Drilling Project  
**Date:** Sunday, February 19, 2023 2:34:58 PM

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing to voice my opposition to the F3 Gold proposed drill sites in Black Hills National Forest. I'm stating the obvious here but exploration can lead to actual mining which is detrimental to the beauty and safety of the Black Hills and the people and wildlife that call it home. Water is more valuable than gold as it is fundamental to life.

As avid outdoors people, my husband and I spend most of our weekends hiking in the Black Hills. For Indigenous peoples, the Black Hills are sacred. For hunters and fisherman, the Black Hills provide sustenance.

Mining is, at minimum, a nuisance and a grave potential environmental hazard.

Jodi Heintz  
[REDACTED]