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First name: David
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am a City of Custer resident living on French Creek and owning several rental properties and vacation rental properties also along French Creek. I have great concerns about this project and will do what is necessary to see it stopped.My greatest reasons for opposition:
1. Water pollution is nearly unavoidable. we depend on water below and above ground. With as near as these proposed drilling sites and prospective mining sites are to homes, camp grounds, French Creek, the City of Custer it is undoubted that there will be some lasting effects to our current clean water.
2. Light pollution. These drilling rigs will have lights on constantly; not just the type of lights that a farmer or garage would have to dimly light a drive way but large lights that will cast yet more of a glow into the night sky. We enjoy seeing the stars in a reasonably dark night sky. Don't mess it up.
3. Damage to the landscape. I'm not just talking about damage to the ground but the visual damage of drilling rigs in our TOURIST dependent Black Hills. If anyone wants to see drill rigs they can go to Houston ... not our beautiful Black Hills.
4. Traffic. It really irks me that traffic that is currently restricted for the flow of animals (seasonal Elk moves) will be put on hold for up to 5 years. The impact of traffic upon the Elk is a big enough deal right now for the forestry service to limit and stop traffic but this will be completely overlooked and 24hr traffic even given hardy approval to for a mining company. Shame on Ya'll.
5. Noise pollution. We already have a nasty infestation of UTV's in the summer but now we are going to add to them mining rigs, sludge pumping trucks and all the other noise wheeling vehicles.
6. I already believe poorly about the governments acquisition of land under the guise of keeping it for future generations ... and this opening up of 'public' land for exploratory drilling with the stated end purpose of MINING as a complete misuse of the property that was stolen from the people for the purpose of protecting its natural beauty for the people.

BLM stop this project at any cost.Do not cut any corners but perform an Environmental Assessment so that you know exactly what short and long term effects we will be left dealing with if the US Government is blind enough to let this project go through.David Andrews*redacted*