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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Home,

People say home is where the heart is, others say home is where your loved ones are, Home for many is a place, a place to enjoy, a place to feel comfort, a place to feel safe. All of these perfectly encompass Spearfish, Spearfish Canyon, Tinton and more importantly the entire Black Hills. I have worked for many companies that were in the mining industry, Homestake Goldmine, North Antelope Roschelle Coal Mine, and Rawhide Coal Mine. These operations sold the locals on opportunity, wealth, jobs, what they did not sell them on is truth, truth that this land is irreplaceable, truth that this land can never look the same, Truth that this land is sacred to Native American Indians, truth that our children will may never get to experience. The Black Hills in South Dakota have been estimated to nearly 3 billion years old, Exploration Drilling can erase what mother nature built for us. There is no such thing as exploration drilling, we know they will find SOME mineral they want and the exploration part will turn to a full on operation. Look what Wharf Mine has done to the surrounding mountains around Terry peak, they have eliminated them, Look how Hometake left a massive hole in the earth. Do we want anything like this to happen around Spearfish? Look at the open coal pits around Gillette, Look at the Rock quarries that are littered around Spearfish. Think about the beauty we have here today and think about the distant memories they will be if we allow exploration drilling. Exploration Drilling is not exploring, it is ignoring Mother nature and removing her from existence.