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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern;

I am fine with mining, but not up-stream of where I live.

Therefore I am NOT in favor of this project.

The past legacy of mining has created a disaster in The Black Hills named the Gilt Edge Superfund Site, where despite tens of millions of investment, long term remediation and mitigation on-site are not estimable.

The federal government and taxpayer will be paying for the fallout of this project (acid rock and heavy metal drainage), presumably, forever.

This legacy gives me pause and pits me against any future mining projects near our water source, Spearfish Creek, the value of which is also inestimable (water is priceless to the people who want to live, work, and thrive here long-term).

If the mining companies coming in would like to purchase indemnification from a reputable insurance company in the amount equal to the long-term value of our water, I'll listen to proposals about efficiency of site cleanup.

Legally, we need an instrument that holds all proceeds of the project in escrow until proof of remediation is completed and demonstrated.

The public should have access to the site to verify all claims including those claiming that the exploration has not already damaged the water here.

Exploration companies should fund independent testing of nearby water to look for excursions of material from exploratory drilling, the damage done.

Remember "Strawberry Creek", and the irreparable damage that did to life and vitality down stream in Whitewood, South Dakota, a people arguably so terrified of violence and retribution from the mining industry that they won't even talk about the pollution there.

I am writing on behalf of my wife and three daughters in addition to myself.

We do not want this project commencing up-stream of where we live, work, love, and thrive in our amazing and beautiful home town.

I would like to present this project (attachment) as an alternative for feasibility, which, as per my tentative calculations, would generate three times the economic impact of this ill advised and dangerous mining project that could pave the way to raze the Black Hills to the ground in the name of EV batteries. The Hut-Cut project would create thousands of great paying building and design jobs while remediating another, in addition to Gilt Edge, existing mining project that was never cleaned-up (the open cut in Lead, SD).

Sincerely,

John Dale, MS MIS/Entrepreneurship