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Comments: The only purpose for the proposed exploratory drilling is to follow-up with mining and processing of ores for gold and/or lithium, the environmental consequences of either being absolutely unacceptable. The site is northwest of Custer and Custer State Park, and the watershed is northwest of Upper French Creek; the prevailing wind is out of the northwest and French Creek flows through both town and park, all of which portends airborne and waterborne contamination by chemicals of proven carcinogenic and mutagenic consequences to the residents, wildlife, and over 3 million annual visitors. Things have changed in the 150 years since the Mining Act of 1872.The proposal itself howls with a lack of consideration of and respect for fundamental environmental and human concerns, which speaks to the ethic of this out-of-state enterprise. NEPA requires an EIS at the very least. If the intent is to mine---which cannot be allowed---let us not waste time with the impact of test holes. Ignorance is treatable; stupid is forever.Cleve Trimble MD, FACS*redacted*