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Comments: Sirs

I am strongly opposed to the above project for many reasons, but mostly because of the following.

1. Water

Particularly in the Southern Hills, water is scarce and precious. In the Newark Project, the 300-400 bore holes could easily affect our wells, springs and aquifers. Contamination of the entire watershed will occur with the drilling and subsequent mining. The fact that mining companies will monitor themselves regarding water is ridiculous.

2. Forest Access

Locals and tourists are restricted on the use of trails and roads by the forest service to protect the forest, but you propose to allow special access to the drilling rigs and water trucks. This makes no logical sense.

3. Tourism

This valuable industry will suffer with mining. Who wants to see mines, dust, and compete on the roads with mining rigs and trucks. At the very least, an environmental impact study needs to be done. The southern Hills are not environmentally the same as Jenny Gulch!

Mark Wheeler

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