

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [F5-comments-rocky-mountain-black-hills-hell-canyon](#)  
Subject: [External Email]Newark Exploration drilling project  
Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 8:20:41 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your time in taking comments and feedback on the proposed F3Gold Mining Project.

As a resident of Custer over the past several decades, I feel obligated to make a stand for our community. I do not feel there has been sufficient research or preparation done for this project to come to life. I feel there are many cultural, environmental, or private water issues to review prior to the commencement of the drilling. Custer is a place so many people enjoy for a variety of reasons, especially the wildlife and natural beauty of the land.

The area that has been slated for the proposed drilling sites sits less than two miles from my residence. Wabash Springs Road is within a mile of my subdivision. What are the impacts for my right to quiet enjoyment? I am concerned the noise from the drilling will be disruptive, not to mention the displacement of the wildlife we enjoy watching.

My concerns are not limited to my own enjoyment. I am concerned about the displacement of wildlife in the area. From my own home, and drives on these local roads, I have seen Bald eagles, American eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, deer, elk, mountain lions, and other wildlife. What is the long-term outlook for their well-being?

I am specifically concerned about the possibility of contamination of our local water sources. Will the drilling affect the availability of water for those on a private well system? What is the long-term effect on Custer's water supply with this drilling project? Will there be any reparations for residents if it is found to be contaminated due to the drilling?

I think an Environmental Impact Study would be the appropriate prerequisite for this drilling project. This would provide a more in-depth and long-term look at the impacts on our private wells, lakes, wildlife, and local economy.

Respectfully,  
Susan

Merriman [REDACTED]  
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