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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern, I am writing this letter in regards to the Spruce forest being clear cut. I do not support this, it will damage the ecosystem and it will not do the Hills any good. It will ruin the lives of many plants and wildlife in the area, harming their habitats. These are things to take into consideration before this plan takes action, because I feel as though not a lot of thought was put into this beforehand. The environmental factors are not thought of, only the money and the profits that rich people would make. It is very irresponsible to continue on with this, especially with all of the environmental problems going on right now.

Replacing the Spruce forest with Aspens will have a price to pay. There are many wildlife habitats that it supports and it will lead them to have to find another one, which can result in a decrease of population. The environment has already gone through so much, and last summer the lakes and the rivers were drying up, which is a huge concern in itself. Why add on when there are so many things that are happening to this Earth, the Earth is not renewable once it is gone and we have to take that into consideration. It will not be here forever so we have to do our part to help it, to make sure that all the lives that are carried on here can survive, we as humans hold the responsibility to do so. It is our job to save the Earth, to save the people, to save the animals. We have to do it.

If you get all of these letters and still don't take people's concerns into consideration, you guys are cruel, and I mean this in the nicest way possible. If you don't care about our environment, then what kind of person are you?

The next thing I would like to talk about is the fact that the Black Hills is also cultural and traditional to the Indigenous peoples of South Dakota, it serves significance to their ceremonies and spiritual practices. It is a place that they have known for many many years and they deserve to be able to practice their culture freely, that is the least they could have after their long and hard history in South Dakota. I, as an indigenous person myself, want my fellow Natives to have this one thing.

I know this letter is supposed to be professional, but it is hard to be professional especially after hearing that this site may be potentially demolished in the future. It pulls at my heartstrings to see the way nature is changing, it is not at all the same from when I was a young child- and that wasn't even that long ago! I am tired of seeing my environment change in the worst ways, I am tired of pipeliners and fellers and rich and privileged people messing with the ecosystem for their own gain. It gets tiring seeing how things are now, how dry and dreary it can get sometimes. We need change, and we need it now. It feels like we don't have much time to turn it around. We must take action. It is easy to just brush it off but please, take this into consideration and don't just trash our letters. We took time on these and we deserve to be heard. Thank you for reading this if you do.

Kind Regards,

-K