Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/20/2022 8:51:01 PM

First name: John W. or Mary

Last name: Newland

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Jenny Gulch Exploration Drilling Project #57428 is of particular interest to anyone living in the Black Hills because of the use of precious water that is increasingly in demand for all those downstream of Silver City. The impact on Rapid Creek in this time of drought can only be imagined. The potential short term and long-term possibility of stream contamination from runoff is always going to be there no matter how careful the project is done. Flash flooding such as we have experienced in the not-so-distant past will always be a possibility. As one who has long enjoyed hiking and fishing above Silver City and below, I am particularly concerned about the impact of truck and equipment traffic on the access roads and in general the disruption to the natural environment. No amount of reclamation can ever replace what we already have. If gold is found in significant quantities to be mined this area will be forever lost to the public.