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Comments: We submitted an objection to Mr. Gubbels and the USFS regarding this proposed Project in October, 2021.

Frankly, we are in shock and dismay after reviewing the documents and the decision regarding the Jenny Gulch Gold Exploration Drilling Project.

It was determined that an Environmental Impact Statement was not needed (or, not "required")? It was determined that an Environmental Assessment was all that was needed? It was determined that there was no significant risk? Is there an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement needed that is any more powerful than the fact that the Black Hills already has a Superfund Toxic Waste Site due to mining? Does anyone really believe that this exploratory drilling will not lead to mining?

ANY risk is too significant whether from exploratory drilling or mining. Accidents do (and will) happen and will result in irreparable disruption and damage to the environment, to recreation, to public health and safety and, most dire, to the essential water source for Black Hills communities, Rapid City, and Ellsworth Airforce Base.

We join impassioned pleas from these communities and the Lakota to prevent this drilling and its disastrous potential impacts and to prevent the likely progression to mining here in our beloved Hills.

Mr. Gubbels and the USFS have the ability and moral obligation to prevent this. Please do so.