

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/21/2023 9:52:01 PM

First name: brent

Last name: cox

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Can any mining operation around the watershed that provides clean water to the second largest city in South Dakota be of such value that it negates the potential threat of permanently damaging this clean water? There is a gold mine called Gilt Edge near lead South Dakota that was designated a Superfund site because of the serious danger of water pollution. The company that started this mine took what they wanted then filed for Bankruptcy leaving the state with a massive cleanup. This mine soon became a Superfund site and has yet to be cleaned up, and continues to pose a risk of destroying the watershed downstream. There is no mining operation that will not be a dangerous risk, regardless of what the company says. No mining operation should ever be allowed to put at risk the watershed of the second largest city in South Dakota. The few temporary jobs that a mine may create cannot be worth the risk of permanently damaging the water for 100, 000 people to include the Ellsworth Airbase. The future of Western South Dakota depends on keeping this water clean. The Black Hills is a world Wide destination for people to come see, let us keep it that way instead of turning it over to few greedy people.