Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/5/2023 2:37:47 PM
First name: Sally
Last name: Cain
Organization:
Title:
Comments: To the USDA Forest Service and Custer County,
I'm am opposed to the F3 Exploration Drilling Project by F3 Gold, LLC of Minneapolis, MN. on National Forest land northwest of Custer and French Creek. I realize that the Black Hills became what it is today partly through discovering gold . Yes there is a very antiquated 1872 Mining Law in this state (which I'm sure that all of you are aware) was meant for people doing the mining with their own man-power digging holes. It was not meant for todays technology where a whole mountain can be stripped and destroyed. The Lead Gold Mine closed in 2002; still to this day that area is such an eye sore and a travesty to the beauty of our Black Hills. This law allows large companies from outside this state to come here and destroy and pollute our Black Hills, which is held in trust by this government to be protected for all people to enjoy, with no consequences to those destroying our land.
There has not been adequate investigation of the ramifications this project will have on our health or the geographic area in question. This project is listed as an "F3 Exploratory" in nature, which is just a sneaky way to get your foot in the door to do further mining for gold or lithium. There must be an environmental impact study done in this area to protect the public and our natural resources. Having a cabin very close to this area, I'm extremely concerned about our well water being polluted, drainage into French Creek and the risk to our wildlife due to the poisons is to high a risk to go forward without a thorough environmental impact study being completed.
We've had a drought in this area with wells needing to be dug deeper , so where is all the water going to come from that they will need to do exploratory drilling and then actual mining? The future and health of the people in Custer County are being placed at a very high risk for other people to make money!
This is such a beautiful place and it is your responsibility to protect our land and the people that live there.
Thank you, Sally Cain