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First name: PHILIP
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: No to Categorical Exclusion for proposed Newark Eploration Drilling Project

I have been a home owner and resident in the Custer, SD area for over 20 years and live in the general vincity of four mile west of Custer. I am concerned with the proposed Newark Exploration Drilling Project and its effect on our water sources, natural sounds, and pristine lands.

This project does not warrant a Categorical Exclusion and should go through the EIS process for a more indepth examination of the proposal. The argument that F3 has done an EIS in the Pactola area and sets the stage for a exclusion of the Newark project is no longer valid due to the fact mining/drilling in the area of the Pactola Lake has been recently been excluded by the USFS from mining activity for the next 20 years.

This project is prelude to more possible mining activity and along with other types of proposed mining in the area of Custer (Lithium) our water sheds will be significantly strained to support those drilling and mining operations and history shows our water sources will likely become polluted. The natural quiet of the Black Hills will be lost to metal on rock excavations, fenced off areas will prevent us from accessing our public lands and our pristine landscapes will be scarred for many lifetimes.