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First name: Phil Last name: Melmer Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm writing in opposition to the proposed exploration and mining in the Big Hill area near Spearfish, SD. Though I agree that mineral production is valuable to our society, I am in fierce opposition to the proximity of the mining to surrounding communities and the impact it would have to the many outdoor activities. These activities have allowed Spearfish to become the community it is today, and can say that these trails and options for these activities are the reasons we moved here. Mineral production is finite and a short lived venture when you compare the benefits and value outdoor activities bring to the health and enjoyment of local residents. Please honor this opinion and deny the mining requests in the Big Hill area.