

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/6/2023 3:51:01 AM

First name: Ryan

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a lifelong member of the Black Hills community, I am deeply concerned this proposed project will have a negative effect on the area I'm happy to call home. I don't see any way in which this project will benefit the local community and I am worried about the potential ecological risks as well as the damage to the aesthetical and recreational aspects of our beautiful area. We don't have to look very far to see how easily a mining operation can contaminate a water supply (Homestake Mine). I am concerned that water contamination could occur around Spearfish Creek as a result of this proposed operation. I believe a full NEPA study (EIS) should be conducted before any additional steps are taken. In addition, the area in which the proposed operation would be conducted is frequented by locals as well as tourists for its pristine trails and beautiful scenery. A mining operation would devastate this area and have a negative impact on locals who frequent these trails as well as our tourism industry. I haven't met a single local resident who wants this proposal to proceed. This is public land so I think the public's voice needs to be strongly considered before proceeding with this proposal.