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Comments: Please do not permit exploratory drilling in the Black Hills of South Dakota. The project would have negative impacts on the local wildlife and the surrounding environment, with little to gain for the local economy.

Recently, in the Lewis and Clark National Forest in Montana the Black Butte Copper mine was authorized, all with same promises of generating a boom to the local economy. However, there have been few, if any of those economic promises realized, and foreign workers and corporations appear to be the only entities getting ahead while the scar on the landscape will be permanent. Don't fall prey to the foreign mining company promises in the Black Hills and protect the natural environment so that future generations don't have to see a pit where a forest once existed.