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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thanks for allowing me to comment. I believe that Spearfish Creek is of such incredible value that it's entire watershed area needs the utmost protection. I love fly fishing this area above and in the canyon. I am very familiar with the area.

I grew up in Edgemont with the radon exposure from the uranium sand tailings. I remember the horrible amounts of mercury that were blithely dumped into Whitewood Creek. I reflect on the Superfund sites we have in the Black Hills that exist because of weak laws, inadequate bonds, and nefarious business and environmental practices of the mining multiple mining companies. We have purposely underfunded regulatory agencies at all levels of government so that mining practices are not scrutinized enough. This is the result of extensive lobbying by mining interests.

This permit should be halted until a FULL environmental impact is prepared. This area is too valuable for all its other uses to be threatened by an industry that has an untrustworthy record of just stewardship of our natural resources and environment.