

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/8/2023 4:05:17 AM

First name: Ashley

Last name: Kurtenbach

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Mr Kozel,

Please oppose the Golden Crest Exploratory Drilling project.

As a resident of Spearfish and avid outdoors recreationalist who hunts, fish, hikes, bikes and camps in the Black Hills, I firmly believe this project has no place in our area.

People who live here, do so because of the beauty whether to look at it, live in it or experience it.

This project has zero benefit to the landscape, the community or the State of South Dakota. They will not bring in jobs, as they claim, they plan to steal employees from Lead or bring in outside staff, this was information straight from a representative of Solitario Zince.

This project will do NOTHING for residents, the little money the County and State does receive, doesn't compare to the amount of money received from recreational activities, hunting, or fishing.

The company has also claimed it will not be a threat to wildlife, stated verbatim by one of their representatives "There are no elk there." Go tell that to the 1,000s of hunters that apply in that unit each year. To say that the equipment doesn't bother them is ridiculous.

They claim they will only use existing roads/trails. Who holds them accountable? They will plow their way through, further damaging the landscape. If this company were to go bankrupt during the project, our tax dollars would be left to clean the mess. Once again a foreign company coming in to destroy our public land and wash their hands of it.

This area has the potential of polluting aquifers and also the potential of pollution and damage to Spearfish Creek, part of the Spearfish Canyon.

I request a FULL Environmental Impact Study.

As a resident and on behalf of others who live and enjoy this beautiful place, please OPPOSE this Golden Crest Drilling Project, it has no place here and offers no benefit of any kind.