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Comments: I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed mining operations in Spearfish, South Dakota. Spearfish holds a distinctive charm with its breathtaking natural beauty and exceptional outdoor recreational opportunities, which must be preserved for future generations.

One of the aspects that make Spearfish truly unique is its remarkable trail system. Countless man hours have been invested in creating and maintaining this network of trails, allowing people from all around the world to experience the wonders of nature in this picturesque region. These trails contribute significantly to the local economy through tourism.

Introducing mining operations in such an environment would have adverse effects on the delicate balance of nature and the recreational activities that draw visitors to Spearfish. The noise, pollution, and habitat destruction associated with mining would mar the tranquil ambiance that nature enthusiasts seek. Moreover, the potential risks to water sources and wildlife cannot be ignored, threatening the region's ecological integrity.

I urge you to reconsider the proposed mining operations and instead explore sustainable alternatives that will uphold Spearfish's reputation as an outdoor recreation haven. Let us protect the invaluable natural heritage and the tireless efforts invested in creating this magnificent trail system, ensuring its availability for generations to come.