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Comments: It should be unacceptable to allow exploratory drilling for gold on public lands with only an environmental assessment. At a minimum an environmental impact statement should be required, especially when this project will have a greater impact than other projects that required the more thorough impact statement. Additionally, the potential impact of future mining is of even greater concern. The Spearfish Canyon Area should be withdrawn from mineral entry, as well as the rest of the Black Hills. Our public lands should be available for use by the PUBLIC, not private companies for profit while blocking access by the public. Especially in areas like Spearfish Canyon and the Black Hills that serve so many people and with such cultural and historical value.