

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 4:04:53 AM

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Comments: My comment is to try and encourage an environmental impact statement to be performed . It shall be transparent with who is conducting the E I S, who is funding it and its set objectives. I propose that stakeholders, none more important than the Lakota Nation who's ancestral lands will be penetratrated, undeniably altering previously undisturbed areas of potential significance, be allowed to vet the scientific process for creating an E.I.S. for the proposed project.

Affects to endangered species need to be investigated thoroughly. Species such as the Northern Long Eared Bat recently listed, the USFS may not have had ample time to display a robust understanding of possible negative impacts due to poorly understood key life history attributes. Ample time and funding should be allocated for a baseline population estimate for all vulnerable flora and fauna plus key habit. Air, water, noise, light and any other unforeseen pollution caused by exploratory mining activities needs to be modeled for ALL implications.

Potential negative impacts on vulneable populations and impacts from; heavy road traffic, light and noise disturbance at drill sites, baseline stream flows, water table contamination, water usage, possibility of disturbance of native peoples sacred sites, all percieved impacts from likely affected stakeholders present and future.

Migratory birds would also potentially be affected. Mining affects on migratory birds, specifically bald eagles and osprey should also be explored.

I request that an E.I.S. have the investigation agency be approved by representatives from locals and the Lakotan Nation.

The negative consequences of approving vs costs of reclamation from a worst case disaster far out wieghs the benefits from any best case scenario of financial gains for the public.

There should be a clear line of duty to tamp out a permit that has the end result of risking to create an uninhabitable region that currently seems successfully managed sustainably for maximum benefits to the ecosystem, economy and recreationalists.