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Comments: I strongly oppose the proposed Golden Crest drilling project. Gold is not a critical or strategic mineral. The Black Hills is a very special place and should be protected. There has already been extensive extraction of resources here. Agriculture and Tourism/Outdoor Recreation are the drivers here, bringing in over 3 million dollars per year combined. Continued resource extraction will deter people from coming here to live and recreate. There is little water in the Black Hills. Our waters should be protected from use and pollution. Wharf Mine uses 1.8 million gallons of water per day and has had numerous spills. The mention of mining creating jobs in the Hills is not entirely accurate as many of the workers involved in the process are from out of state. Why not protect the landscape and ensure that sustainable and long-term activities remain intact - focus on sustainability, creating responsible tourism opportunities, ensure that there is landscape connectivity for the already pressured wildlife that lives here? Not to mention that all of the areas that have been mined here are an eyesore. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Paula