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First name: Joseph

Last name: Valades

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Objection Reviewing Officer:

I am originally from Fort Meade, SD, and I have lived in the Black Hills for over 50 years.

I categorically oppose all mining in the Black Hills. Specifically, Solitario Resources Corporation, which offers no guarantees to protect our aquifers no matter what safety protocols are put into place. One mistake and our water can be contaminated, and there is no chance of reversing the process. Likewise, our ecology and wildlife will be displaced and endangered by this 5-year-long project.

Solitario Corp. answers only to its shareholders and not the people of the Black Hills, who have a significant stake in this decision. This project offers far too many problems and no solutions. Therefore, the people of the Black Hills must be heard, and all mining proposals must be denied.

Thank you for all your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Valades