

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/25/2024 4:19:11 AM

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Comments: I strongly oppose exploratory drilling in the Black Hills.

The Black Hills are still dealing with environmental issues from its long history of gold mining. One example is Whitewood Creek, its a great place to go on a science field trip to test for toxins in the water caused by mining. Conducting these tests in this creek is a great tool for teaching, because we will find these pollutants. However it should also be a lesson in regard to allowing for history to repeat itself. We know what happens when the mining companies come into our Black Hills, and we know the disasters they leave us with when they pack their bags. Who cleans up after them? Generally it is us the "taxpayer". Even if they do reclaim the lands and follow all EPA regulations there will forever be a footprint left by them in our Hills.