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Comments: It is very wrong to put Douth Dakato's land at risk, land that has been a part of indigenous peoples for centuries, land that is used recreationally, and for tourism, all because of a land grab for big mining companies. The environment and wildlife will be hurt. Drinking water could become contaminated as we have seen time and time again with other projects. Over 400p drill holes will be drilled up to 3.000 feet. This cannot be good for the water supply, especially in these climate change times with droughts and an increase in wildfires across the country. There will be 24-hour lights, noise, and dust, 5-7 days a week hurting wildlife and people who live nearby. In addition, there will be a loss of recreational, ceremonial value of the land for the indigeonous community, and use of a HUGE area just to mine. There will be further harm to the already badly affected tourism economy. The clear-cutting of trees and vegetation at each of the 43 drill pads will also affect the environment badly destroying critical ecosystems vitally important to maintain during climate change. The drilling mud pits full of toxic barium.

Lastly , this is a violation of Tribal treaty rights, religious freedom (claims come to ~1 mile from a ceremonial ground on tribally held land). This is land that has been revered and honored by indigenous people for centuries. They have respected the land, and it is in danger of being destroyed by white men for their economical gains. The people of the Spearfish area have made their opposition to mining projects in their backyard clear. People across the country, including myself, join them in this fight. It is wrong. It is harmful, and it must be stopped.