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Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the potential environmental impacts of gold mining operations in Spearfish Canyon-specifically the risks to groundwater wells and local creeks that many residents, including myself, rely on for clean drinking water and ecological stability.

Clean water is a basic human right and a shared resource that must be protected. I urge local authorities, environmental agencies, and mining companies to conduct thorough environmental assessments, involve community members in the decision-making process, and enforce the strictest standards for pollution control and water monitoring.

Our creeks and groundwater are vital not just for today's needs but for future generations as well. I respectfully ask you to consider the long-term impacts of gold mining on our water systems and to prioritize environmental integrity over short-term economic gain.

The recent rock collapse that occurred on highway 14a south of Vitoria Lane in Spearfish Canyon should remind us of the fragility of the canyon and the need to protect this vital resource for the community. We DO NOT Support further gold mining expeditions in the area.

Thank you for the consideration,  
Michael Ramey