

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/20/2025 10:34:55 PM

First name: Melanie

Last name: Tuininga

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As an individual living in MN, and not having anything like the Black Hills, or any type of canyons as the Black Hills have, I am upset to learn of the exploratory drilling in the area of Spearfish Canyon. Our forebears worked hard to preserve for their posterity places to visit that show the beauties and wonders of our natural world. Many of our National Parks are already in danger. We have countless examples of how drilling and mining have scarred the face of the earth, upset the balances of wildlife and polluted water sources. Other options need to be explored. Of a different concern is this action against areas held sacred by the indigenous people of the area. Only in recent decades have strides been made toward healing the tattered relations between the Native Americans and the US government bodies, and there is much to be done in the future for better relations. This would be a huge setback, showing once again that agreements made can be broken.