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Comments: I am urging the USFS to commence a full EIS for the October Jinx Craven Canyon project. There is too much at stake to allow this drilling project to take place. I have concerns about many issues here, yet the water use and possible toxic contamination is a big one. Craven Canyon and the entire Black Hills is steeped in severe drought. There are plans to pipe water to the Black Hills from the Missouri River (which is has extremely low water levels currently) because we can't fill the needs of those who live here and you want to give the October Jinx project the authority to pump 130,000 gallons of water into a four-foot-deep, unlined 50' x 50' discharge pit? Besides pumping activities would also move water between drill holes to test the aquifer. This could push contamination from one part of the aquifer to another.

Craven Canyon is a indigenous cultural site, along with home to wildlife. It is an area that reclamation will be hard to achieve as mentioned above it is very dry. Other mines in the area that were active in the 1950's-1970's still bare the scars of heavy equipment and drill holes not sealed.

I have hiked in this area over my years exploring the Black Hills. Craven Canyon is a unique area and should not be open to this drilling process. Again, I urge a full Environmental Impact Statement to be done, plus extending the comment period.