



CITY OF RAPID CITY

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Steve Pirner, Secretary

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

523 East Capitol

Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Dear Steve,

I have heard a lot of testimony from citizens at our City Council meetings expressing sincere and vocal concern about the use of water to extract uranium from the formations surrounding the Black Hills. Of course, most of the discussion has been on the Edgemont area. I am concerned that we would even consider using a life essential element, such as water, to conduct such operations, especially if that water is left useless and dangerous. If this is so, what is being done to stop this process from beginning and if allowed to start, what will be done to recover and protect the water?

I remember the mess and clean up of the uranium mines of the past and the issue of the superfund gold mine in the Deadwood area. Please assure us that all will be done that is possible to protect our water and to prevent an exploitive and abusive project from starting.

If you would provide me what the SDDENR will do and has planned I would be most appreciative.

Sincerely,



Jerome "Jerry" Wright

cc Mayor and City Council