

PETITION LETTER:

Dear Nuclear Regulatory Commission,

The uranium mine proposed by Powertech is wrong for South Dakota. Extracting uranium from the ground has far more hazards than benefits, and the health and safety of the Black Hills communities, as well as the surrounding forests, would be at risk.

To begin, the large amount of water used by the mine would ensure water shortages for South Dakota's communities. In a state currently suffering from extreme drought, taking 47 billion gallons of water from homes, schools, and small businesses and diverting that water to a mine is not safe or logical. Plus, if the mine were to become operational, the little water that did reach the residents would most likely be contaminated with uranium. There have been serious health risks associated with ingesting uranium and, due to the mine, South Dakota's families would be directly affected.

Furthermore, the mine would be far too close to the Black Hills National Forest. The site of Mount Rushmore, the Black Hills attracts millions of visitors each year and is an important natural, cultural, and historic park for the United States. Uranium mining has been proven to leak radioactive residue into the environment. A mine that is operational for two decades would, without a doubt, expose the plants, animals, and people around Black Hills to dangerous level of radioactive materials.

Please reject Powertech's permit proposal. The health and safety of South Dakota is at risk.

Sincerely,

[Your Name Here]

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