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Date: January 14, 2010

To: David C. Frankel, esq.

Mr. Frankel,

As per your recent request, I have reviewed the areas or neighboring areas of concern dealing with current mining projects in the areas of the Black Hills and adjoining counties. It is my considered opinion that without an in-depth investigation of any of these areas, involving both surface and subsurface areas on at least a strong sampling effort, that there is the strong possibility of massive disturbance of cultural materials. This observation is based on several primary sources of investigation, but also the ***Black Hills National Forest: Cultural Resources Overview, vol. 1 synthetic summary***, edited by Lance Rom, Tim Church and Michele Church, dated 1996. My primary sources include several reports written by myself: ***A Level III Heritage Resource Survey for the Power Analysis Area on the Spearfish District of the Black Hills National Forest, Lawrence County, South Dakota; A Level III Heritage Survey of Selected Parcels within the Elk Bugs Planning Unit in Lawrence County, South Dakota; A Level III Heritage Resource Survey on 12 Grazing Allotments on the Harney/Pactola Ranger District, Black Hills National Forest, Pennington County, South Dakota; A Level III Cultural Resource Investigation of the Fiddle Creek Area on the Nebraska National Forest, Fall River County, South Dakota.*** I have worked in the area of the Black Hills and surrounding counties in several states for over 15 years as both a Federal archeologist, and a private archeological contractor. It has been my experience that in the majority of areas that are defined by either current or extinct water resources, there is a high degree of probability of encountering both historic and prehistoric cultural remains, to include human burials (see the above reports and overview). As both a professional archeologist and a responsible citizen of this region, I would find any degree of ground disturbance without some form of in-depth surface and subsurface investigation to be not only remiss, but disrespectful of our collective heritage. If there are any further questions or actions that you might require of me, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address, telephone number and/or e-mail address.

Sincerely,



Louis A. Redmond, PhD  
President/owner  
Red Feather Archeology