

## StrataRossKenExSEISCEm Resource

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**From:** Gena Parkhurst <gmp66@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2016 10:18 PM  
**To:** StrataRossKenExSEIS Resource  
**Subject:** [External\_Sender] Docket ID NRC-2011-0148

My comments re: Docket ID NRC-2011-0148

When reviewing Strata's application to expand their mining operation please consider that the proposed uranium mining and processing area has over 5,000 abandoned drill holes from the early days of uranium exploration. I would suggest that Strata be required to locate and plug these old exploration wells because NRC has identified that water contamination could result from "improperly plugged previous exploration drillholes that have not yet been properly abandoned."

- Also, please consider that the proposed mining and processing process has an extremely high consumptive use of water, which has the potential to draw down the aquifers that provide drinking water and water for livestock.

- Consider the track record of spills, excursions, pond leaks, and failed aquifer restoration at previous uranium mines in Wyoming, Nebraska, and Texas. Impacts of past uranium projects have been significant – with routine spills, leaks, and excursions of chemicals into adjacent aquifers. To date, not a single uranium project has fully restored an aquifer to pre-mining water quality. There is no indication that Strata's operations will prevent these impacts.

- Consider the cumulative impacts to water quality and quantity from the full scope of Strata's whole project, which includes this first permitted site of the Ross Project with an anticipated four additional projects in the approximately twenty mile area of the "Lance District" in Crook County. Strata should not be allowed to expand until Powder River Basin Resource Council's appeal for the Ross Project is settled.

Sincerely,

Gena Parkhurst  
PO Box 1914  
Rapid City SD 57709

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