

March 1, 2011

TO: Minerals and Mining Program
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182
FROM: Richard L. Fort for
ACTion for the Environment
11307 Black Forest Road
Lead, SD 57754

RECEIVED
MAR 01 2011
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

RE: Nomination as Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique for East Half of Section 1, T 4N-R2E, portions therein..

To Whom it may concern.

We wish to add our support for this nomination. We, however, suggest modifying and simplifying the proposal by making it for all of Sections 1 and 2 of T4N-R2E.

We offer the following reasons for our support:

(1) It accommodates an obvious concern of the proponents to preserve a historic cemetery within this area which includes a number of individuals from the early history of the area.

(2) It is next to and encompasses an important residential area whose property values are important to county revenues. Development that could lower these values would negatively impact the tax base for this county. There are over 200 residents within the affected vicinity.

(3) Development into the Terry Peak Ski area would negatively impact the best downhill ski area in the State and in the entire Midwest.

(4) The area is special in that it includes the highest peak of the Northern Hills and is a uniquely beautiful scenic area.

(5) The area is heavily visited the year around and has become a tourism resource of great value to the region and the State.

Sincerely,



Richard L. Fort