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Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

May 8, 2017

Mr. Victor Kettlelapper and
Ms. Debra H. Thomas
Acting Regional Administrator
Region 8
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202

Re: Dewey Burdock Uranium Mining Proposal from Azarga Uranium Mining Co., formerly Powertech Uranium Mining Co., and Superfund Investigation brought by The Wild Horse Sanctuary, Hot Springs, SD

Dear Ms. Thomas and Mr. Kettlelapper:

It has come to my attention that a request for a full blown investigation of the Dewey Burdock mining area and surrounding areas mined in the 1950's and 1960's near Edgemont, SD was denied by the EPA because various owners of the huge open pit mines abandoned by uranium mining companies would not allow access to the EPA for testing of water and to observe erosion.

There are over 200 open mines in the Dewey Burdock area, both within and adjacent to the 10,400 acre Azarga proposed mining area. Of these there are four huge mines which are over a mile across and which have estimated depths of at least 90 feet. The water in these open pit mines is extremely toxic, containing highly radioactive water and heavy metals, including high concentrations of arsenic, plus dissolved solids and other contaminants resulting from the previous mining activities.

I own property in both Custer and Fall River Counties. I feel that the environmental health of both counties is at stake and that this area should long ago have been designated a SuperFund Site.

By this letter I am requesting that the EPA reopen the investigation into the problems being caused by the mining of the 1950's and 1960's and suspend the Powertech Azarga permit application currently being heard by Region 8 EPA for 4000 deep well injection wells.

In July of 2014 and subsequent to that I flew over the Dewey Burdock and photographed the old mines and the drainage of the site which flows into Pass Creek and Beaver Creek. These creeks then combine and the water flows into the Cheyenne River near Edgemont. The

Cheyenne flows into Angostura Dam, the largest fresh water irrigation and recreation dam in western South Dakota. This dam leads into the Missouri River.

It is my contention from observing the drainage patterns of the site towards these creeks and the Cheyenne that substantial leakage from the mining areas is occurring and contaminating Beaver and Pass Creeks and then the Cheyenne River, and Angostura Dam with the potential to contaminate the Missouri River.

With this letter I am submitting a CD of 92 pictures taken from the air which illustrate the drainage patterns, substantial erosion, and evidence of vegetation anomalies which belie the extreme toxicity of the water held in the larger open pit mines.

Within the 2014 and 2015 time frame there was a major rain incident which sent a 4 foot high wall of water toward the railroad tracks in the Dewey Burdock which derailed at least 4 railroad cars. This was documented in the Edgemont Herald Tribune at the time.

The continued pollution of the Cheyenne River will continue to impact the Wild Horse Sanctuary and other lands that border the Cheyenne River as well as the town of Edgemont.

I specifically call your attention to the following image numbers on the enclosed CD which show various aerial views of the Dewey Burdock area. These are: 2385, 2388, 2392, 3091, 3095, 3096, 3097, 3099, 3103, 3124, 3136, 3140, 3142, 3143, 31144, 3150, 3154, 3156, 3162, 3163, 3164, 3165, 3134, and 817. Images 3162 and 3163 show massive erosion areas on one of the open mines that is typical of many of the mines.

Please advise me as soon as possible as to what action you intend to take regarding the reopening of this SuperFund Investigation of the Dewey Burdock Area and the Cheyenne River.

I stand ready to provide further information as needed. You have only to call me for assistance.

In closing, please evaluate this site more carefully. It is only going to get worse and will ultimately result in an ecological disaster of massive proportions. We need your help.

Very truly yours,

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