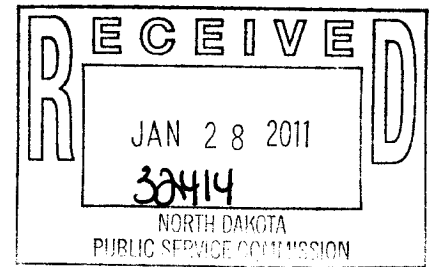


January 27, 2011



Public Service Commission
600 E Boulevard Ave
Bismarck, ND 58506

FROM DIRECTOR - RECLAMATION Div.

Date: _____

Action: _____

Info. Only: _____

Info & File: _____

RE: SOUTH HEART COAL MINE APPLICATION

I am strongly opposed to the application request for the South Heart Coal Mine which is proposed near Medora, North Dakota. The public has not been given the complete truth about land reclamation nor about the hazards of coal mining. It is no coincidence that the health of hundreds if not thousands of people is being compromised daily by the pollutants coming from the seven coal mines already in North Dakota. The ads keep running for how cheap electricity from coal is and if we eliminated it, we would lose the equivalent of jobs in four North Dakota communities. But what of the cost to the health and very existence of the people of North Dakota who are breathing this tainted air, eating from the tainted earth, and drinking from the tainted waters that have been polluted by these seven coal mines. I have seen land supposedly reclaimed and it is never the way it was before the mining took place. The ground water is polluted with chemicals, the land doesn't look the same, and the air quality is much worse in North Dakota due to these coal mines. We don't need another one. We need to eliminate the ones we already have or clean them up which I truly feel is impossible to do. The health of all North Dakota is much more important than another coal mine to ravage the earth. Let's pursue renewable energy not finite and dirty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Theresa Tober".

Theresa Tober
1018 1/2 Summit Blvd
Bismarck, ND 58504