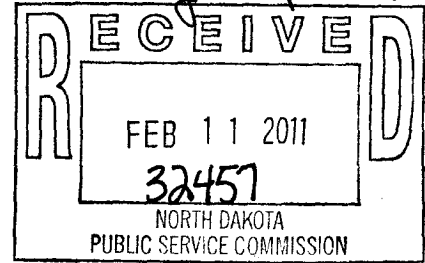


Date: _____

Action: _____

Info. Only: _____

February 10, 2011



Dear Public Service Commissioners,

I was startled to hear a coal mine is to be built in the South Heart region. I'm startled for several reasons, & there NEEDS to be a formal hearing about this application because it affects all of us! Siting a coal mine so close to our largest national park, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, is a detriment to our main tourist attraction & an insult to Theodore Roosevelt's vision & belief of the true wealth of ND - its natural wealth. The park is a national treasure, not just ours, but our entire country's. And we in ND have a duty to protect this park for all Americans.

An equally great concern is the local hydrologic system of the South Heart region.

Water is the most important resource we have in ND, especially Western ND. It makes everything go round & there is NO substitute for it! We can find & use substitutes for coal & other fossil fuels, but once a hydrological system has been tampered with, how do we fix it? Man cannot replicate the delicate balance in our underground aquifers, & once these are gone we will not be able to reclaim this land for farming, rangeland, or any other sustainable living. A coal mine would sadly be a one-time harvest.

For these & many more reasons, I urge you to DENY this mine permit. Furthermore, farmers, ranchers, residents, wild life, & the tourists to Theodore Roosevelt National Park will be greatly affected by this coal mine! People deserve the right to a formal hearing!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abigail Anderson".

ABIGAIL ANDERSON
1407 S. BLOSSOM DRIVE
MENOKEN, ND 58558