Health study exposes water contamination on Pine Ridge reservation

by Edje Gordon

A study by Women of All Red Nations (WARN) has found dangerous levels of chemical and radiation contamination in the well water of the Pine Ridge Reservation. Preliminary tests of ground and surface water were made after an alarming increase in spontaneous abortions, birth defects, and cancer mortality was documented.

In one month during 1979, from November 16 to December 16, fourteen, or 35 percent of the pregnant women who reported to the Public Health Service Hospital at Pine Ridge suffered spontaneous abortions; miscarriages before the fifth month accompanied by unusually heavy bleeding. The incidence of spontaneous abortions is probably even higher since, according to Community Health representative Geraldine Janis, many miscarriages go unreported. Of the children who are born 60 percent to 70 percent have breathing problems as a result of underdeveloped lungs and heart valves. Others are born with birth defects like cleft palate and club foot. In Chadron, Nebraska, near the reservation, statistics show a similar incidence of spontaneous abortions and an astonishingly high rate of stillborn and deformed cattle has risen noticeably.

Cancer, leukemia, and sterility are appearing in epidemic proportions. A representative survey in the Manderson district showed that one older in 10 of the 12 families passed had died of some form of cancer. On a national scale, the "Atlas of Cancer Mortality Among U.S. Natives, 1950-1969," prepared by the National Cancer Institute and published by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, indicated a significantly high incidence of cancer deaths among Indian people in the West. The Atlas showed, moreover, a high correlation between cancer death rates and areas of intensive energy development in the Southwest and western South Dakota.

Currently, there is no medical explanation for the increases in spontaneous abortions, birth defects, and cancer deaths. However, studies in other areas with similar health statistics indicate a direct link to water contamination.

How could Pine Ridge water have become contaminated? There are several possible causes.

According to Dr. Charles Hoover, a professor of ecology at the University of Minnesota and consultant to the WARN study, poison-oil pesticides and herbicides have been used west of the Black Hills in the Big Horn Mountains. The Big Horns are one of the sources of the Lakota Aquifer, from which most Pine Ridge water is drawn. Closer to home, the Forestry Division of the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department confirmed that the tees heberticide, 2, 4-D, was sprayed extensively throughout the state to kill weeds around deciduous areas, causing the pine ridge water contamination.
Flurry of action spurred by Miners for Safe Energy

by David Johnson

If you've visited Lead or Deadwood lately, you may have noticed a flurry of posters announcing bake sales, public meetings and rummage sales. These events aren't sponsored by any ordinary civic group. No, Miners for Safe Energy has stepped into the community spotlight.

As a group of miners and local citizens, Miners for Safe Energy has a primary goal of educating its fellow townspeople about energy development in the Black Hills.

This educational work takes many forms, and the group has divided itself into seven work areas to meet the challenge. The Media and Outreach group is in charge of using press, radio, TV and public speaking to reach the community. This group will begin to publish a monthly newsletter on local energy news. "Black Hills News Energy Times," and is establishing a speakers bureau. Speakers are available on a number of subjects including Health Hazards to Workers in the Nuclear Industry, Jobs and Energy and Labor's role in the Anti-Nuclear Movement.

Another committee focuses on Alternative Technologies. Miners for Safe Energy feels that safe renewable energy sources can be made available in an economical, practical way.

Cancer deaths due to radiation from the nuclear fuel cycle could be virtually eliminated by the full use of these energy sources. The Alternative Technologies group is researching energy sources, and is constructing solar collectors and other renewable projects. With the tremendous public interest in solar power, the committee is optimistic that nuclear power can be a thing of the past.

Miners for Safe Energy is primarily concerned with the miners and working-class people. It's only natural that the group should have a work group aimed at building coalitions with organized labor. The group has created a sharing of ideas with local 7044, United Steelworkers of America, in Lead, the miners to which many members of Miners for Safe Energy belong.

The labor work group has also begun to contact other local and national labor organizations. Some of these leaders, such as the Lehigh, No. 3 in Indiana, have come out for renewable energy sources and against nuclear energy. Miners for Safe Energy would like to see local labor forces take this position, which they feel is a far more significant step forward for all working people.

Another work group is aimed at furthering a working relationship with Lawrence County agricultural organizations, such as Save Central Valley Association and the Butte-Lawrence County Water Quality Association. This committee is beginning to work with these groups on local planning and zoning issues concerning development of agricultural land. Also, the committee is interested in legislation on the state level, and is considering a public meeting with local state legislators on April 30.

The Black Hills International Surfing Gathering in July, organized by Alpaca, was not a project on which Miners for Safe Energy is working. This group is helping to organize transportation and mobilization on a local level. Other contributions of Miners for Safe Energy for the Gathering will include a workshop on Jobs and Energy and a labor film series.

The health of former miners is another concern. Miners in Fall River County is being studied, and another Miners for Safe Energy work group. The group is attempting to determine just how much harm is done to the health of workers in the uranium industry. Miners for Safe Energy hopes to coordinate its study with the recent release of the Pine Ridge reservation's Health Study by Women of All Red Nations. See story this issue. "W.R.N.S. study indicated a possibility of radiation contamination from past uranium mining.

The organizational work of Miners for Safe Energy would be impossible without funding. The fund-raising committee is a particularly important work group, and is busy on several projects. First of all, two bake sales, each earning $100 for the group. Another bake sale, combined with a rummage sale, was held at the Homestead Bank Club, in Lead on March 16th, and more than $300 was raised. A solar collector built by members of Miners for Safe Energy was displayed there and will be raffled off later this spring. The group is also planning two benefit dances in the coming months. Finally, Miners for Safe Energy has applied for financial grants from two national foundations.

Vermilion BHA fights Anaconda

by Nancy Loscheid

The Vermilion Chapter of the Black Hills Alliance is working for a future to all of our grandchildren. We have been working new for over a year to educate our selves and others about the dangers of uranium exploration, mining, and milling. We have aligned ourselves with the Black Hills Alliance because we believe that our strength lies in working together to protect our way of life.

We believe that the plans the multinational corporations threaten our survival and that we must act now to protect the health and safety of our future generations.

Until a month and a half ago, we tried to educate ourselves and the people of our area about the effects of uranium exploration in the Black Hills. In the last days of January, we discovered that Anaconda Copper Company intended to explore for uranium in our own back yard. We decided that we had to inform the people in the affected area as soon as possible, and we did so with great success. On February 14th, we had a hearing examiner, the people of our area in general, and the people of the world in general. The people of our area could not have done it without the help of the people of the world in general.

We believe that the plans the multinational corporations threaten our survival and that we must act now to protect the health and safety of our future generations.

We have no doubt that Anaconda will amend its permit applications in an effort to gain the approval of the people of the world in general. The people of the world in general have the power to make the decision that Anaconda will not be allowed to operate in the Black Hills. We believe that the people of the world in general have the power to make the decision that Anaconda will not be allowed to operate in the Black Hills.
BLACK HILLS
INTERNATIONAL SURVIVAL GATHERING

Health for Survival

by Eda Gordon

To survive is not only to be self-sufficient but to be healthy. If we are to be prepared to meet the needs of the future, we must recognize the threats to life by corporate and military contamination and develop the skills and attitudes necessary to exist in harmony with the Earth.

A survivor must know as much about how to take care of his or her body as about appropriate technology for shelter, food and basic living needs—and must be able to take care of health independently of existing institutions and established remedies.

It is painfully clear that present-day corporate-designed medical systems ignore the health needs of large segments of the country's people. We must re-evaluate what traditional western medicine offers us and advance alternative methods of health maintenance, including self-help and natural healing.

The 1980 Black Hills International Survival Gathering will therefore focus on health as part of its planning, we base our work on potential.

The 1980 Black Hills International Survival Gathering will therefore focus on health as part of its planning and strategies for survival of life beyond the 1980's. In our planning, we base our work on potential for alternative systems. Books will be set up offering speakers, workshops, films, slide shows, displays, and literature for sale and study. Several aspects of Health Survival will be demonstrated and explored.

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND MIDWIFERY will incorporate a broad spectrum of women's health care, child-bearing and parenting alternatives. The emphasis will be on self-help and reliance on oneself and one's community. This is in contrast to reliance on costly health professionals in a male-dominated medical field to address the needs and rights to know about their own bodies. Demonstrations will include how to eat, breast examinations and natural birth centers. Alternatives in child birthing and child raising will be presented during a three-day mid-wife conference, July 19-22, on ethics, legalities, techniques and networking.

The HEALTH AND ALTERNATIVE HEALTH SYSTEMS section will share in basic survival skills and information to help us understand health as a part of the creative life force. The section will also emphasize a balanced relationship with Mother Earth. Traditional, native and western medicine will be included, along with cutting-edge research and community-oriented old ways. Topics will range from acupuncture and Bach Flower Remedies to color, water and vitamin therapies. The alternative remedies will be viewed in light of philosophies of health and natural healing of mind and body.

Special emphasis will be placed on food, including food co-op programs that will be most appropriate for people and not for profit, food standards, health-rubbing foods like coffee and sugar, and Third World oppression through commodity foods. All the food prepared at the Gathering will be organically grown and obtained through coops.

The HEALTHY FOOD HAZARDS OF ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND CHEMICAL USE sections will deal with the threat to people, land, air, animals, and plants as a result of corporate policies and the U.S. military machine.

Agents of chemical and biological warfare used during the Second World War and Vietnam War have been brought home by agribusiness and the Forest Service. These chemical agents are being used on the grasslands of South Dakota as well as on farms and farms throughout the country. The Health Hazards workshop will discuss the health effects of missile testing and herbicides, both of which are not controlled under South Dakota law.

A HEALTH EFFECTS program will invite victims of corporate exploitation to share information about the high cancer rates, birth defects and emotional and physical suffering from community and cultural disruption. Workers exposed daily to deadly chemicals in fields and factories and to radiation in uranium mines and nuclear plants will document the corporations' concern for profits and production over job safety. People in medicine and science will give an overview of the processes being carried out that damage people and all living things, and will help show what can be done to combat these practices.

Coordinators for Health for Survival see the International Survival Gathering as a prime opportunity to develop communications networks and the skills necessary for survival. Interested people are invited to suggest program topics and resources people, as well as to offer documentation from personal experience.

Suggestions should be sent as follows:

Health for Survival Pre-Registration Form

Please indicate the areas you are interested in contributing:

1. Health Effects of Energy Development and Chemical Use on All Living Things

   Midwifery and Women's Health

   Holistic Health

   Survival Gathering Medical Needs

Name

Address

Phone Number

Send to HEALTH FOR SURVIVAL, Black Hills International Survival Gathering, P.O. Box 2598, Rapid City, SD 57709 or to the Coordinators listed in the above article.
In the uranium mine

by Jeane Tomo

For the past four months, I was a worker in a uranium mine. I was one of the most frightening and most important experiences of my life, for it started me on a journey of inquiry and affirmation of life that may never have begun without having had the disturbing experience of working in the mine.

In the summer of 1975 I was a New England college student who had completed two years of study toward a degree in geology. For a number of reasons, I decided to take time off from my studies and I looked for work in geology. My first offer was a job as a geologist in a uranium mine, or underground on a cleared out level. There were both types of leach piles in the mine.

Several hundred gallons of concentrated sulfuric acid (pH 1.7) are poured over the leach pile through a piping system, and the acid percolates through the ore and leaches away iron, uranium, thorium and rare earth elements. The solutions collect at the bottom of the pile and are pumped back to the top as the solution is recycled again and again over the leach pile, the concentration of the radiotoxic and other elements increases.

Sulfate acid is added regularly to the system, increasing the volume of the leach solution. There were intermediate storage places for the

Is there reason to believe?

Hold that Line News Service

Centralized energy is dirty. At some times and in some places it pollutes the environment with enough poison to threaten life. That is the case right now with radon gas and uranium mining, with acid four years ago with hydroelectric power plants, with radon gas and nuclear energy, and with electronic high voltage power lines. Indeed, there is the problem of how to get the power to the market and how to get the power to the consumer.

Partners fighting the 1000 KV DC powerline in Minnesota are approaching the issue of health and safety. It is a difficult issue to address because either too much environmental standards don't exist, they are weak, and they don't exist at all. There is no one person or organization to monitor and enforce the standards.

Added to this are problems surrounding the matter of "known causes of death." Powerlines and other contentious energy facilities simply do not exist on scientifically controled

The crud stops here

Despite the dangers of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, despite the problems with nuclear fuel and waste disposal, and yes, even despite the increased amount of warm-up grade plutonium in the world, a national technical conference de-clared "world nuclear energy development must be continued.

Eminest representatives from countries around the world met in Vienna and endorsed the development of fast breeder reactors and a way to reprocess used fuel.

You can read more about this in the Boston GLOBEC 1977

In conclusion, there was no evidence that the powerline was causing health problems. Articles in the September 15 "Saturday Review" and the January 1980 Readers' Digest point out problems with electric and magnetic fields. Scientific literature we have accumulated also discusses the effects of electromagnetic fields on living things. The effects of air noise from direct lines such as ours, and the effects of the

people under the line had bad. One study determined by a simple majority that there is reason to believe that health problems are being caused by the power line. The powerline will be shut down on the strength of this determination pending whatever examination is to be conducted.

Quite predictably, official Habeon scratched its head for about a week before deciding that such a jury could have no "legal authority" and the idea was shot down. We are now discussing some weaker counter-proposals with some bureaucrats who are making clumsy attempts to identify us.

But the Jury of Peers idea has merit. It has been endorsed by a couple of politicians in the State Legislature and by several political and environmental organizations. The media has picked up on it, by 1% and it looks reasonable in the general public. In future months we will pursue the idea in several ways, including legislation to give County Commissioners or some other locally-elected authority the power to convene such a Jury. Who knows? Perhaps we'll just convene the jury on our own and enforce its decision by ourselves.

The idea of a Jury of Peers could be applied to a great many of the issues raised by centralized energy development. It could provide an opportunity for those who are opposed to energy development to participate meaningfully in the decision making process.
to $35 per pound it suddenly made sense for the mining companies to test the feasibility of acid leaching.

My job, as gechemist, was to find a method to extract the uranium from the leach solution without absorbing the iron, thorium and rare earths.

In all the extractions I ran there was always some contamination, making the acid leaching process somewhat more complex than was expected.

I also took water samples from the local water systems to test for radium contamination.

Miners were treated as a commodity. This was partially a result of the structure of the working relationships. Most communications between management and the miners as well as the work progressed on schedule. Serious situations which arose were viewed only as hindrances to production, as in the case of the radon gas underground.

When I first arrived at the mine my boss informed me that I should not go underground often, suggesting that I would have horribly deformed children if I did. With his hands he outlined huge ears around his head and asked, "Do you want children like that?" He was referring to the fact that radon, an odorless, radioactive gas which emanates from the leach pile and stored leach.

The miners were resentful of the ventilation and respiration because they made their job more difficult without offering any obvious benefits. Those men were contract miners, many of whom had worked in the local nickel and copper mines. This was just another job for them and they saw the safety equipment as unnecessary because no one from the company had taken the time to explain about uranium, radon gas and radiation.

To do so would have cost too much time and money, and it was in the company's interest to keep the miners from having full information about the hazards of working with uranium. Management saw the radon gas as an impediment to production and their practices caused the miners to see it as a working inconvenience; the health issue was never addressed directly.

The health of non-human life was also ignored. At the edge of the mine site, behind a man made dam in a stream, was a large pond filled with 150,000 cubic feet of unsuccessful leach solution. The liquid had received some kind of chemical treatment, but it was obvious that not all the iron and radiactivity elements had precipitated out.

This contamination of waterways was the most disturbing to me. Occasionally, at night after work, I would dream that the creeks, brooks, streams and lakes near the mine had ceased to run with water and ran instead with the bright orange radioactive leach solution. I would wake up shaking from those dreams because I know that they merely exaggerated the actual situation.

The above ground leach pile had been located on bare ground over a fault zone, and my routine testing of the ground water near the leach pile confirmed that each solution had been seeping into the water table. The pH of uncontaminated groundwater was 6.9, contaminated groundwater was 3.8 and undiluted leach solution was rough 1.6. The only available treatment for such a problem was to apply lime in order to neutralize the acid. There was no effective way to recover the uranium and thorium in the solution once it leaked into the water and the earth.

There was one small creek that ran near the mine site. The water that collected in the bottom of the mine shaft was routinely pumped into this creek. The shaft water contained some underground leach solution that leaked away from the underground operation.

All the above ground leach water is pumped and where the solution containment is located. I found it hard to believe, and be admitted that they did treat the water with hypochlorite bleach (like Clorox, presumably to precipitate the radioactive), but I felt this treatment was totally inadequate.

I asked why everyone else drank the water, and he shrugged, suggesting that no one cared. He encouraged me to start bringing in my own water from town.

Earlier I had viewed the other types of environmental and human contamination as examples of carelessness, but I soon began to see a pattern of willful ignorance on the part of the mine management.

They perceived the acid leaching process to be a relatively simple one, and in doing so they ignored all the facts that made it complex. They ignored the fact that a caustic acid will leach away many elements, not simply uranium. They ignored the fact that uranium is a uniquely dangerous substance and that it must be handled in a careful manner. The solution they used had many components from which it was difficult to extract pure yellow cake radon gas and ground.

Sorry, no scan was done for this bottom section.
Braddock family awaits test results

by Sherry Oswald and Colleen Bogan

The Braddock family is anxiously awaiting the results of blood samples taken to detect radiation damage to their bodies. Results of radiation monitoring around their house, including soil and water samples, should also be known in the coming weeks.

Neil and Genny Braddock and their three children, Christopher, Marius, and Eben, were "strongly urged" by the S. I. Department of Water and Natural Resources to immediately evacuate their home of more than two years because of exposure to radioactive contamination.

The house was built on a radioactive mining site known as "hot spots" in the Braddock community.

Federal, state, and local officials have been aware of the possible dangers of radioactive pollution in the Braddock house since 1972, but failed to warn them or other homeowners possibly exposed to radiation.

Only a few tests have been developed that can detect radiation damage. These tests were recently rushed by the Illinois State Board of Health in the belief that the tests are needed and expensive.

In The Uranium Mine

TVAs representative, Darlene MacDonald, says that TVA is not assuming any responsibility for paying their rent. The effort to secure financial assistance for these families is now in the hands of the court.

"A representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Chris, age 20, has a 30 percent chance of developing cancer because of his exposure to radiation. This month, Chris, who has been severely debilitated by radiation, told us that he has been able to walk and talk again after months of treatment."

"I'm glad," MacDonald said. "We're not really aware of how much damage was caused by the radiation exposure."

"The newly created position of environmental health coordinator (EHC) is largely funded by TVA, Union Carbide Corporation, and Burlington Northern Railroad. EHC officials noted that advance preparation is necessary to handle the influx of workers expected with the new uranium mining."

"We are not sure how long this will last," MacDonald added. "But we are prepared to do whatever it takes to protect the public's health."
Health study exposes water contamination

continued from p. 1

trees. The herbicide 2,4-D contains dioxin, a lethal poison, and was used by the U.S. government in combination with 2,4,5-T in "Agent Orange" to defoliate Vietnamese land during the Vietnam War. The Washington Spectator (Jan. 1, 1980) reports in "The Enemy Within, Toxic Poisons:" A Vietnamese chemist, Ton That Tung, told the Spectator of the effects of Agent Orange in his country: "A kilogram of 2,4-D coated diatom will provide lethal doses for a billion guinea pigs where it has spread crows give birth to stillborn calves. chickens become sterile, women stop evaulating the number of unauthorised risen, as does the delivery of defanged babies. Dioxin alters the chromosomes, attacks the lymph, heart and thymus glands and provokes skin diseases and edema of the eye and causes cancer of the liver." Even after being banned in Vietnam as "inhuman," these toxic chemicals have been used in the U.S. Last spring a House Commerce subcommittee heard what the Washington Post described as "dramatic new evidence of birth defects, miscarriages and nervous disorders following aerial spraying of herbicides near rural communities." The Presidential Task Force Substances Strategy Committee, after a two-year study, found a correlation between birth defects and dioxin levels in the environment.

The "Baitse Guide for the Uranium Milling Industry" by the Robert A. Taft Sanitary Engineering Center, which is quoted in the WARN study, underscores the danger of this contamination:

If tailings are permitted to enter the stream, these solids will be deposited and will accumulate for long periods on the stream bed within a short distance point. The unsieved radium will be leached from these solids to the overlying waters, increasing the dissolved radium content of the stream.

The area taken from the Lakota by the U.S. government during World War II and used as a bombing and target range. The office of the Community Health Representative CHER reported the data from the nitrate tests conducted by the South Dakota Department of Water and Natural Resources. According to CHER, parents were told that children 10 months or younger should not drink water with a 2.6 nitrate level. Of 146 wells tested in the reservation, eight registered levels 25 or higher, and 14 registered from 3.9 to 2.7. The level of nitrates in one sample from Oglala was 14.8; the sample from Wypacanal Road, Start tested 2.4 on January 24, 1980.

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EDUCATION SYSTEM IN SAFE WATER, WARN does not think that the people of Pine Ridge and surrounding ranches and farms should have to wait 30 days, let alone 30 years, for potable water. WARN called for a state of emergency, immediate delivery of safe water, and a comprehensive, scientific study by federal and state agencies, who are responsible for assuring a safe water supply. WARN had called upon President Carter to take decisive action by March 23, 1980. With the International Treaty Council, WARN had reported the preliminary findings to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in Geneva. Congressman Morris Udall, (D., Ariz.), has already responded to WARN's call for a complete congressional investigation. Roy Jones, chairman of oversight with Utah's House Committee on Interior Affairs, is investigating ways to help people affected by the contamination. Jones is also exploring the possibility of congressional hearing and a General Accounting Office study of the water on Pine Ridge - these would be similar to studies conducted on the Navajo Nation in the Southwest.

Investigators from the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, GA., have been commissioned by the Indian Health Service to examine the health problems outlined by the WARN study and to begin...
Public relations phone call prompts grassroots organization

by Evelyn Lipton

Deanna Hall is a public relations man for the Mandan Powerline project. She made a phone call in January that precipitated the formation of a grassroots organization with more than 200 paying members.

When Joyce Hedges, Kingsbury County Commissioner, heard from Hall that Nebraska Public Power District wanted to build an above-ground kisowitz powerline through eastern South Dakota, she became concerned and telephoned friends. In early January, she hosted a meeting in the garage on her ranch that more than 150 farming people attended. And on January 19, she and others formed a group called Safe Energy Alternatives in order to study the development of the Mandan powerline.

The South Dakota farmers are concerned over what they've heard and read about high tension power lines. Jeff Fox, Vice-Chairman of Safe Energy Alternatives (SEA), feels that NPPD is 'shoving the line down the farmers' throats.'

"NPPD didn't answer most of the questions. Fox said, 'We won't say how much they are paying for power, the cost of the line, where it's going, who is going to use it. They just said, "It's still in the planning stages." They won't even disclose who's going to construct the line. They say it hasn't been determined yet.' Fox said.

"In my opinion," Fox added, "the people in Mandan feel they are not being treated fairly. The Mandan Powerline is being sponsored by four companies, but NPPD and Manitoba Hydroelectric are the principle sponsors. The power for the line is to originate from a Manitoba generating facility on the Nelson River, 730 miles north of Winnipeg.

Members of SEA are concerned that South Dakota won't benefit from the powerline if it goes through. NPPD will be able to sell power to the Mid-Continent Area Power Pool (MAPPP), a regional grid that allows power to be transferred from one utility to the next throughout much of the United States.

Fox said that he has heard of lines and power substations already built in Iowa and Kansas equipped to handle transferred wattage from the Mandan.

"I had a telephonic conversation with [a] man from Wahtill, Nebraska. He reported to Mr. Fox about the plans for a Mandan powerline "through our area," according to the newspaper he was reading. "It's a very important project," he said. "We need it for our own needs, and for the people of the entire state." "I'm not sure they have the right to do it," replied Fox. "We need to have a public hearing to determine the route of the line. "The people of South Dakota are not happy about this," said Fox. "They want to have a say in the matter.""

SAFE ENERGY ALTERNATIVES would like to be able to have meetings with the group. Currently, the group is searching for an attorney who will act as an attorney for the organization. The attorney will represent the organization in court and in negotiations with the developers. The attorney will also help the group in filing for permits and in other legal matters.

SEA sees itself as a vehicle for information. The group wants to educate the public about the capabilities of the powerline - what it consists of and what it will cost. The group also wants to encourage action by citizens who are concerned about the powerline.

"NPPD doesn't say much in the way of information," Fox added. "They don't want us to know what they're up to. They only tell us what they want us to know. This is not good for the people of South Dakota. We need to have a say in the matter.""