



Craven Canyon hearings underway

MEGHAN O'BRIEN
South Dakota Searchlight

HOT SPRINGS — Persistent, drizzling rain didn't keep dozens of people from rallying against a proposed uranium drilling project in the southern Black Hills on the first day of a weeklong hearing to decide on a permit application.

Law enforcement officers and vehicles flanked the parking lot and theater doors Monday at the Mueller Civic Center, where the hearing took place.

Opponents cited concerns about Craven Canyon, which is near the proposed drilling sites and is marked with ancient Native American petroglyphs. Opponents said they're also concerned about the potential to contaminate underground water, and to negatively affect the state's agriculture and tourism industries.

"A lot of the people in this room don't live near Craven Canyon, but that doesn't mean that you ditch the responsibility to protect it," said project opponent Anissa

Martin. She then referenced the Lakota name for the Black Hills. "So I ask you, where will we go when the He Sapa are uninhabitable, when we have no water in the Black Hills? And I ask you, what water will you drink?"

The hearing drew public testimony from not only residents of the Black Hills, but also from Wyoming, Minnesota and Pennsylvania. People who spoke Monday during the hourslong public comment period were all in opposition to the project.

The company proposing the drilling has maintained that it has gone through all the necessary steps in the permitting process, and the project will not harm the nearby canyon.

The state Board of Minerals and Environment can deny an application to explore for uranium for several reasons, including negative impacts on historical, archaeological or recreational aspects of



MEGHAN O'BRIEN, SOUTH DAKOTA SEARCHLIGHT

Elizabeth Lone Eagle (far right) speaks to the South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment at the first day of a hearing on an exploratory drilling permit on May 18, 2026, at the Mueller Civic Center in Hot Springs.

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'SAVE OUR TAIL'



JOURNAL FILE PHOTO

Deadwood townspeople parade in support of brothels in this July 1980 Journal file photo. A story in the July 18, 1980, edition of the Journal says "Signs in a raucous 'Bring back our ladies' parade read: 'Pro Pros,' 'Have a heart — preserve our wildlife' and 'Save our tale (sic).'" A highlight of the "Save Our Tail" festivities May 20-23, 2026, in Deadwood will be a reenactment of this impromptu procession.

Deadwood's history, fierce women highlight anniversary events

TANYA MANUS
Journal staff

"Save Our Tail," a four-day celebration of Western history, storytelling, preservation and remarkable women, starts Wednesday in honor of Deadwood's 150th anniversary.

"Save Our Tail" takes place May 20 through 23, with a series of presentations, performances and special events. All events are free but donations are welcome.

Throughout "Save Our Tail," award-winning author and historian Chris Enss will bring stories of bold, unconventional women of the West to life, giving presentations in full period costume.

Enss is a New York Times best-selling author who has written about women of the Old West for more than 30 years. She has penned more than 50 published books on the subject. One of her most recent books is "An Open Secret: The Story of Deadwood's Most Notorious Bordellos," exploring the history of houses of ill repute such as The Gem. It was owned and operated by Al Swearngen,



COURTESY OF DEADWOOD HISTORY, INC.

Author and historian Chris Enss will give presentations throughout "Save Our Tail" May 20-23, 2026, in Deadwood. She has written more than 50 books about women in the West.

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MIDDLE EAST | IRAN

Senate advances bill limiting Trump's war powers

ZACHARY SCHERMELE
USA Today
AND HUMEYRA PAMUK
Reuters

WASHINGTON — In a political blow to President Donald Trump, the Senate moved forward for the first time Tuesday with a measure to end the war in Iran.

After several key Republican senators didn't vote — and another key GOP bloc defected — the war powers resolution advanced 50-47.

Though the vote was largely procedural, and faces an uphill battle to actually becoming law, the resolution's progress was a bad omen for the White House about potentially waning support in Congress for the war.

Rising gas prices, spiking inflation and the president's sinking polling numbers have become political liabilities for battleground GOP lawmakers as the November midterm elections approach.

Louisiana Republican Sen. Bill Cassidy — who lost his primary reelection just days ago in large part because Trump crusaded against him — voted to advance the war powers resolution. Before his reelection loss, Cassidy opposed the measure several times.

Virginia Sen. Tim Kaine, who led Democrats' legislative campaign to end the Iran war, said ahead of the vote that the Trump administration is "well past the 60-day deadline" for a president to legally engage in military hostilities abroad without congressional authorization.

"The administration is unwilling to show us the legal rationale for the war," he said on the Senate floor ahead of the vote. "That should be a flashing red light."

Path forward

Meanwhile, Trump said earlier Tuesday the United States might need to attack Iran again, and he was only an hour away from deciding on a strike before he postponed the attack.

Trump spoke to reporters at the White House a day after saying he paused a planned resumption of attacks following a new peace proposal by Tehran.

"I was an hour away from making the decision to go today," Trump said on Tuesday.

Iran's leaders are begging for a deal, he claimed, adding that a new U.S. attack would happen in coming days if no agreement was reached.

"Well, I mean, I'm saying two or three days, maybe Friday, Saturday, Sunday, something, maybe early next week, a limited period of time, because we can't let them have a new nuclear weapon."

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