

# Officials oppose oil field near Bear Butte

**SACRED SITE:** State resource officials to hear pros, cons about drilling near Sturgis in April 21 hearing.

**By Kevin Woster**  
Journal staff

The National Park Service is opposing proposed oil-well development north of Sturgis because of its potential impacts on Bear Butte, a sacred site to Native Americans designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Don Stevens, chief of the History and National Registry Program for the park service's Midwest region in Omaha, Neb., said his office sent letters of concern over the oil drilling project last week to the state historic preservation and natural resource officials in South Dakota.

"We told them we felt the drilling would adversely affect the qualities for which the National Historic Landmark was established — its significance

## If you go

**What:** Board of Minerals and Environment hearing

**When:** 10:15 a.m. CDT April 21

**Where:** Matthew Environmental Education and Training Center of the Joe Foss Building, 523 E. Capitol, Pierre

**More:** Comments may be sent in advance to Fred Steece at 2050 W. Main St., Suite 1, Rapid City, SD 57702 or by email at [Fred.Steece@state.sd.us](mailto:Fred.Steece@state.sd.us).