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(S.D.)-First Dark Matter Experiment Results To Be Announced

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 10/30/2013 05:44 AM

LEAD, S.D. (AP) - Scientists are announcing the first results of an experiment that is searching for dark matter in a lab nearly a mile underground at the former Homestake gold mine in South Dakota's Black Hills.

Physicists working in the Large Underground Xenon project, called LUX, planned to announce their initial results Wednesday at a seminar in Lead. The LUX experiment seeks to detect dark matter in a hall 4,850 feet underground in the Sanford Underground Research Facility.

Dark matter is thought to be a predominant form of matter in the universe that reveals itself through its gravitational effect.

The research facility says a leading candidate for dark matter is called the weakly interacting massive particle, or WIMP. The LUX experiment is searching for WIMPs.

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