Clyde J.R. Estes Chairman

Cody Russell Vice-Chairman

Fely Goodface Secretary/Treasurer



Jewel Jandreau Council Member

Chris Skunk Council Member

Lewis Grassrope Council Member

April 24, 2024

APPROVE LETTER SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION OF THE PACTOLA RESERVOIR—RAPID CREEK WATERSHED

This letter serves as Council Concurrence that the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe does hereby support the proposed plan of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the USDA Forest Service to protect cultural and natural resources in the Pactola Reservoir from the detrimental impacts of mineral mining in the area.

WHEREAS, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe supports the Forest Service's requested 20,574 acres of NFS lands being withdrawn from all forms of entry appropriation, and disposal under the public land laws, mining law, and mineral and geothermal leasing laws, subject to valid existing rights; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe supports requesting the immediate approval of the U.S. Forest Service's proposed mineral withdrawal to BAN MINING near the surrounds of Pactola Reservoir in the Hesápa (Black Hills) of South Dakota; and

WHEREAS, The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe recognizes its authority to exercise the legal indigenous rights of the tribe to agree and support the federal government's plan to protect Hesápa from the impacts of mineral deconstruction for the next 20 years; and

That the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe requests federal implementation of this important preservation be expedited and carried out without haste or unnecessary red tape.

Clyde J.R. Estes

Chairman

Cody Russell
Vice Chairman

Fely Goodface Secretary-Treasurer Jewel Jandreau Councilmember

Chris Skunk Councilmember

Lewis Grassrope Councilmember