Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/17/2023 7:00:00 AM First name: Patricia Last name: Palmerton Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my opposition to any drilling, exploratory drilling included, in the Black Hills. I am opposed to any possible mining in the Black Hills, and exploratory drilling is a step toward such mining.

The Black Hills are a sacred space. It is shared with the entire world as a sacred space. Tourism is the lifeblood of the Western Black Hills, and any mining or drilling will inevitably destroy the pristine sacred nature of this remarkable resource.

NO to any exploratory drilling.

Patricia Palmerton

redacted