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Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for your consideration of postponing mining activity in the area of Pactola Reservoir. Public lands are an important part of South Dakota's identity. It is paramount that recreational access not be restricted by private endeavors, particularly ones that impose a threat to the environment. What little oversight and regulation that already exists does not go far enough to ensure that mining operations will not pollute or otherwise damage the area in and around Pactola Reservoir. The short-term economic gain will not outweigh the permanent health and environmental risks that are part and partial of mining. It's time to find a new, permanent way forward for the bounty entrusted to the United States and the State of South Dakota by the people of South Dakota that is the Black Hills; one that does not include harvesting natural resources for the benefit of a select few. Let's keep the Black Hills clean and pristine.

With respectful gratitude,

Kory Lanphear

Citizen of Rapid City