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First name: PennElys Last name: Droz Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it may concern.

I support the approval of this proposal, and want it to pass. It will result in the withdrawal of federal mineral rights, meaning no mining can happen in the proposal area. Mining in the Black Hills is an irresponsible use of public lands.

100,000 people depend on the drinking water provided by the Rapid Creek Watershed, both upstream and downstream of the Pactola reservoir. Mining and the processing of the raw materials it extracts pollute watersheds with cyanide, arsenic, uranium, mercury, and a host of other toxic "forever" chemicals. These lands need to remain protected for the future of the people in the Black Hills.

Pass the proposal and withdraw all mineral rights in the Rapid Creek Watershed immediately