Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/9/2023 2:18:52 AM
First name: Shodo
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Title:
Comments: I oppose mining in the Black Hills, including gold mining, and there is no reason for exploratory drilling unless the intention is to mine.

I've visited the Black Hills many times. Always I can feel the quality of the space, a spiritual quality. This is in addition to my awareness that these hill are held as sacred by an indigenous nation, who alone has the right to determine their use.

There is nothing you could mine from under the earth - not gold, not lithium, not anything - that would justify the destruction of this magnificent land. It feeds the spirits of everyone who visits. It is a sacred place for a whole people, who have been killed, imprisoned, and persecuted enough. Time to stop the genocide and return their land; meanwhile, do not destroy it.

Someone could make a bit of money with this mining, and maybe those people have power or the ability to bribe. But that's a temporary thing, and the damage is forever.

There is a way of being human on this earth, that includes respecting the earth. Please remember that way. Until you remember it, pay respect to the people who do, and respect their legal rights as well. Mining is an abomination.

Thank you.