Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/19/2023 3:07:58 PM First name: Cherlyn Last name: Leach-Valades Organization: Title:

Comments: The Black Hills was reserved to the Lakota under the 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty. Four years later, in

1872 while Ulysses Grant was president, land was granted to anyone wanting to stake a mining claim. This act is archaic and and needs to be revoked. The Black Hills is under attack by self-indulgent gold mining companies who answer to shareholders and not to the citizens of the Black Hills. The Forest Service has the authority to put on more restrictions and even stop potential projects. This land is sacred to the Lakota and to all who enjoy land and water that is not contaminated. An environmental impact statement is necessary. Water is more important than gold.