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Comments: Dear Forest Service,

Proceeding with this mine would violate the law. The United States government, of which the Forest Service is a part, under the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has a fiduciary duty to protect the interests of the tribes which are indigenous to and the rightful owners of the Black Hills. According to the current Bureau of Indian Affairs website, "Federal Indian Trust responsibility is one of the most important principles in Federal Indian Law. It is a legally enforceable obligation on the part of the United States to protect Tribal Treaty Rights, land assets and resource." The Ft. Laramie treaty is codified at 15 Stat. 635. The case United States v. Great Sioux Nation, 488 U.S. 371 (1980) held that the Black Hills were unlawfully taken from the Great Sioux Nation. None of the tribes therein has ever accepted any payment for the Black Hills. They are not for sale and belong to the tribe by both treaty and Supreme Court decision. There has not been sufficient tribal consultation on this project. An environmental impact Statement is essential. Margaret E. King, Attorney at Law