

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 12:49:12 AM

First name: Jerald

Last name: Vinikoff

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The mineral withdrawal is not only a good idea, it is vitally needed. The Pactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed must be protected. Not only is it beautiful and sacred to many Native Peoples, but it also provides vitally needed water for Native and other communities in the area.

Thus there should be an environmental assessment and a finding of no significant impact. We are seeing headlines from around the country and around the world about the great harms suffered by people when they are in want of a good water supply. There are disasters all over. Climate change will only worsen the state of water supplies.

I have lived all of my now long life on the banks of the Hudson River in upstate New York. I know the sad history of the many problems of this river. It is improving, but it has a long way to go. Think also of Love Canal, Hoosick Falls, etc.

Right now the air is polluted all over the eastern U.S. due to forest fires in southeastern Canada. This is all about water. Whatever shall we do without it?