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Comments: We are living in a precarious times in terms of environmental stability. Fires, droughts, floods and extreme storms are threatening life as we know it. The importance of protecting ecosystems is greater than ever. In this spirit, I urge you to support the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal, and to conduct an Environmental Assessment. I urge you to return a finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) given that the withdrawal of the mine will be beneficial not detrimental.

In saying yes to this withdrawal, you will protect the integrity of the land for environmental reasons - climate resilience, water purity - recreational reasons, and lastly for cultural reasons - these lands are sacred to the Lakota people who have already lost so much of their ancestral lands.