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Organization:

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Comments: I encourage the Forest Service to say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal.

I respectfully request the Forest Service to do an Environmental Assessment (EA).

I then respectfully request for a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) when the EA has been completed. Although this may seem counterintuitive, I nevertheless believe there will, in fact, be no significant impact to the land once the miners are forced to withdraw.

A primary reason for my support of the mineral withdrawal focuses on water quality and cultural values, such as keeping the water free of toxic pollutants, respecting the sacred lands of the Lakota People, and preserving the site for recreation. These sacred lands, that nourish so many Native and non-Native communities downstream with clean water, should be preserved and pristine forever.

In fact, with this reasoning, I might even humbly suggest expanding the area covered by the withdrawal to include all Federal lands in the Black Hills!