

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 5:34:15 PM

First name: Mark

Last name: Chavez

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Greetings,

It is with deep sympathy for my fellow Earth dwelling people of the Native & Non-Native lands of South Dakota, that I type this letter to The USDA Forest Service. Requesting for those tasked with the decision of mining a reservoir that provides nourishment to communities within the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek region, to kindly say YES to the withdrawal and conduct an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Also provide a publicly accessible Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) when the EA has been completed. I firmly believe that this withdrawal will benefit the broader community in Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek region by preserving water quality, preventing any damage to the ecosystem caused by human error during the mining process, and aid in preserving the local economy which depends on agriculture, tourism, and outdoor-recreation.

Kind Regards,

Mark J. Chavez