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Comments: I am asking the U.S. Forest Service to say YES to the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal and to conduct an Environmental Assessment. I am hoping there will be a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) when the Environmental Assessment is completed.

I believe allowing for the mineral withdrawal will help protect the environment, keeping the water free of toxic pollution and preserving the area for recreation. It also respects the cultural values of the Lakota People, and I believe we owe them that.

I also support expanding the area covered by the mineral withdrawal to include all federal lands in the Black Hills. So many communities, Native and non-Native, live downstream, and I believe we have an obligation to keep these waters protected and pristine for them forever, before it's too late.

Thank you for your time.