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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it may concern,

I may have submitted a comment earlier asking for an EIS, but after attending the meeting you held in Rapid City in April, I learned more about the process and now am asking that you do an Environmental Assessment (EA) instead. Once that is complete, please also write a "Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)".

This proposed withdrawal is a necessary step to protect our valuable water and environment. Water is necessary for all of life! Mining has proven not only to have a negative impact on water quality for humans and animals alike. It also diverts much needed water for home use and our local economy. Water provides economic security for our Tourism industry in the Black Hills.

In addition, mining exploration could impact cultural resources of the Lakota Nation.

Mineral exploration and development will still be available on privately-controlled lands, but the majority of citizens do not want mining on our Public Lands!

Thank you for your consideration,

Caryn Lerman

Hot Springs, SD