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First name: Gail
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Comments: All mining operations in He Sapa (the Black Hills) should end as soon as possible. He Sapa is an ancient and sacred place with unique ecology that cannot be found anywhere else in the world. There is no monetary value that can be placed on something so precious, and to put all of that in danger for mining is selfish and reckless. I grew up in a place that was ravaged by coal mining and the steel industry. Our waters were heaving polluted and our forests were a skeleton compared to the Edens they once were. It has been decades since those industries left and still our ecosystems have barely recovered. So I am saying this, as someone with first hand experience, do not allow any further destruction of such a beautiful natural place. It takes so much longer to restore than it does to destroy it, and it's time we start preventing destruction before it happens rather than responding after the fact. We cannot afford to lose this place. You have a responsibility to this land and to the future generations who will depend on it. Stand up and make the right choice. Clean water, clean air, and healthy ecosystems are worth more than any minerals and it's not even close. Make choices you will be able to be proud of one day. Stand up for the land that sustains you. Greed has never brought about anything good.