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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am a resident in Rapid City, South Dakota, only a short 15 min drive from the Pactola Reservoir. I support the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal and strongly urge you to expedite the withdrawal proposal to the Secretary of the Department of Interior.

We can no longer ignore the fact that we have prioritized economic growth over the wellbeing of the planet and its peoples, as we have significant loss and degradation of our life-sustaining natural resources and biodiversity to show for it.

With increasing climate disasters happening across the country, it is critical that we shift our priorities in our communities to protecting the few resources we have left that will provide for us as well as future generations.

Corporations that come into our community are not invested in our wellbeing. According to the American Fisheries Society, land disturbed by mining results in long-term degradation of terrestrial AND aquatic habitats.

Water is life. The Black Hills are sacred. And the Pactola Reservoir is not only a critical habitat for wildlife, it is a place of joyful communing for locals and visitors, alike.

Thank you for your time.