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Comments: I have long been a keen supporter of keeping pristine nature areas safe from extraction and other practices which despoil the environment. It is even more troubling when the areas in question are lands sacred to the over 2,000 indigenous tribes who first populated Turtle Island, or what is now known as North America or the US. Thus, I write to you with an urgent plea to ensure mining companies withdraw immediately to protect a beautiful part of the sacred He Sapa (Black Hills) from toxic mining. I have been following closely and support the efforts of the Black Hills Clean Water Alliance and others to preserve more than 20,000 acres at the headlands of the Rapid Creek Watershed. I am grateful that the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is taking public comments on whether or not it should require mining companies to withdraw from this pristine and sensitive area. I vote yes, withdraw! Colonization has taken so much from the tribes, and despoiling this sacred and life-giving watershed for extractive purposes is not only a blow to the tribes, but also to our struggling planet. We must stand strong with the tribes, who have long and successfully guarded the land and protect this area and areas to come. Our planet will thank us.