Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2024 11:43:52 AM First name: Kate Last name: Kenner Organization:

Title:

Comments: First of all, let me state that I support the withdrawal. To allow mining companies to invade the Black Hills for the profits of mining companies would cause irreparable harm, or harm that would not be undone for a very, very long time if/after the mining stopped. The Black Hills at the Rapid Creek Watershed hold great cultural value for indigenous people but also it is land that has not been touched by machinery, pollution, or destruction. It has cultural value and it is home to wildlife whose habitat would be severely impacted. The air, water, and land would be soiled by any mining that is done there and it is time to stop catering to fossil fuel companies and give priority to nature, wildlife, and the people who live there and hold it in their souls. Allowing mining would be one more step in exacerbating the climate crisis and the only ones who would benefit are those making financial gains. I ask that you protect this land. It is 20,000 acres which would be destroyed, not a mere city block. Please keep mining out.