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First name: Liliy

Last name: Sobolev

Organization:

Title:

Comments: In 1868 the US government signed the Fort Laramie Treaty with the Great Sioux Nation. In this treaty, the Black Hills are recognized as a protected place whose use is reserved for the tribe alone. I support this withdrawal and request that the Forest Service expedite this Withdrawal proposal to the Secretary of the Department of Interior.

After the treaty was signed in 1868, it was violated continuously by settlers during the Gold Rush of the 1870s, and again around the 1950-1980s for Uranium mining. From these times past, there are many unsealed mines that remain, which have left a legacy of pollution and environmental racism against the local residents, many of them indigenous.

It is imperative that the US government do everything in its power to restore the land back to its rightful stewards, the Sioux, and to take concrete steps to address the damage that it has caused to the local population as a direct result of the violation of this treaty. One of the initial things that can be worked on is this withdrawal.

Thank you for your time and attention.