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Comments: I support Withdrawal #63876 that requires all mining companies to withdraw from Ptactola Reservoir - Rapid Creek Watershed. for the following reasons:

- 1) Mining companies have a history of promising to protect the integrity of watersheds and other natural resources when requesting land use and then forgetting those promises. In other words, they have demonstrated that they cannot be trusted to protect resources when doing so would reduce their income and profitability.
- 2) The city of Rapid City and Ellsworth Air Force Base rely on the Rapid Creek Watershed for drinking water and their right to maintain the quality of the water they depend on is greater than mining companies search for profit.
- 3) Other natural resources in the area also need protection from the destruction that inevitably follows mining to protect wildlife and plant species and to maintain and increase biodiversity that supports all forms of life.
- 4) Irreplaceable cultural resources in the area will be at great risk of damage and destruction from mining activity.