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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello,

I support the withdrawal for multiple reasons.

1. Native lands. The Black Hills belong to the Lakota Nation per treaties that span as far back as the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868, and, in 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS) even found the tribe to deserve compensation as a result of the eminent domain that took place when the lands were originally stolen. The Lakota people didn't accept any compensation from the U.S. government because the SCOTUS ruling had proven that the land was unjustly taken from them, and they seek nothing less than to own the Black Hills again.

2. Environmental reasons. It does not matter what is being mined for, as mining in general disrupts the environment, and is unacceptable without permission from the land's Native caretakers. The move for green energy should disrupt any efforts to continue fossil fuel and other mineral exploration that is environmentally hazardous. This includes hazardous to the surrounding wildlife and to nearby communities of humans. Even if the exploration were under the disguise of exploitation for the purposes of green energy (lithium extraction for example), this is still counterproductive to the preservation of the environment, and to the autonomy of the people and organisms in that region. It also violates Native sovereignty. Keep water clean, and land enjoyable to the humans who live there, and safe for the plants and animals that live there.

3. I request that the Forest Service expedite the withdrawal proposal to the Secretary of the Department of the Interior.

Again, I would like to emphasize my support for the withdrawal.