Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/29/2024 2:49:09 AM First name: Michael Last name: Flanery Organization: Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to inform you that I support the withdrawal of mining operations from the Pactola Watershed and the Black Hills in general. The Black Hills are rich with recreation and beauty that is unmatched in this area. No matter how responsible mining companies claim to be, they always leave a huge scar on the land and care little for the riches that are already being capitalized on. The water, land, and wildlife will suffer with increased mining operations and this will lead to the Black Hills ecosystem as a whole suffering. Water is the Black Hills is widely connected and its true path although somewhat understood is not truly known. Disruption or contamination or even the smallest watershed could inevitably put large populations at risk and create a man-made catastrophe.

Again i just want to ensure you know that I support the withdrawal of mining operations from the Pactola Watershed and the Black Hills.