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Comments: Protecting the Pactola Reservoir from harmful mining is crucial to preserving one of the Black Hills' most vital natural resources, our water. As the primary source of drinking water for Rapid City and surrounding communities, contamination could severely impact public health, local wildlife, and the broader ecosystem. The reservoir is also a key destination for recreation and tourism, contributing significantly to the local economy. Sustainable conservation ensures the region remains vibrant and safe for future generations, maintaining clean water, healthy habitats, and the natural beauty that defines the Black Hills.