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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My wife and I have lived on a small farm in the Black Hills for 38 years, during which we have witnessed past and ongoing destructive aspects of the local mining industry. We would like to believe that the days are over when mining was an economically important but ecologically disastrous influence in the Hills. As that era has passed, this area has become much more dependent on tourism, and much more mindful of the sacred significance of the Black Hills to its original inhabitants.

To open new areas to mineral exploration and mining would be out of touch with the modern role and economic significance of the Black Hills, as well as a sacrilegious affront to our Native American neighbors.

We unfortunately have a history of Superfund reclamation sites attributable to past mining in this area, and are very concerned about potential contamination of surface and underground water resources.

We ask that there be a 60-day extension of the public comment period for this project. Before any operation can proceed, we ask that an EIS be submitted.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Don Kelley, M.D.