Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/15/2025 10:16:09 PM

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Title:

Comments: I was a resident of Rapid City for 11 years, all as a journalist. I know firsthand how sacred the Black Hills are to the region's Indigenous people. It's been an honor to be welcomed into Indigenous homes, schools, and communities throughout South Dakota. Through these interactions, I have learned so much about how truly important it is to keep our Indigenous neighbors' sovereignty, history, and rights at the forefront of decisions being made. Priorities such as clean land, clean air, and clean water protect all of us. As such, it would be inhumane of me to not agree with the words of Taylor Gunhammer, "Pe'sla is a sacred site with federal Indian trust status - yet is still at risk of mining, which should raise alarm bells for everyone in the Black Hills area and beyond as the success of this proposal could make all land that much easier for mining companies to contaminate forever." Pe'Sla should not be mined. It is sacred. And it should not be at the mining disposal of Pete Lien & amp; Sons or any other business or entity wanting to do anything that goes against the spiritual wishes of the people who come from that land. It is a tremendous disrespect to not honor the Lakota people and Pe'Sla.