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Comments: Statement in Defense of Lakota Ceremonial Lands

We stand united in firm opposition to all mining activities on sacred Lakota ceremonial lands. These lands are not just soil and stone - they are the heart of our spiritual identity, our connection to the Creator, and the legacy we are duty-bound to protect for our children and their children after them.

For generations, the Lakota people have honored these places through ceremony, prayer, and stewardship. The earth here holds the songs, stories, and spirits of our ancestors. To disturb it for profit is not only a violation of Indigenous sovereignty - it is an attack on our cultural survival and spiritual freedom.

Mining desecrates sacred ground, poisons water, and leaves scars that last for centuries. The damage it brings cannot be undone. No economic gain can outweigh the loss of our sacred sites or the destruction of the natural balance that sustains all life.

We call upon all people of conscience to stand with us in defense of these lands. Protecting our ceremonies means protecting the earth. To honor the past, defend the present, and safeguard the future, we must say no to mining - today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.