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Comments: I spend significant time in South Dakota and He Sapa (the Black Hills) for both recreational and spiritual purposes. He Sapa is sacred to the people of the Oceti Sakowin (the Dakota, Nakota, and Lakota) and many others, including myself. Because of the significance of He Sapa and their ties to this land since time immemorial, He Sapa was reserved by the Oceti Sakowin by treaty, and Tribal Nations retain treaty rights in this land to this day. It is a spiritual, cultural, and natural resource that must be protected for future generations. Of utmost importance is a site called Pe'Sla, which is in close proximity to and/or overlaps the proposed graphite exploration project. The project would desecrate these lands, potentially impacting Pe'Sla, and have harmful impacts on the people, wildlife, vegetation, and water in the area, the extent of which is currently unknown. This is why it is imperative that the Forest Service prepare a full environmental impact statement for the project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. The project must be rejected in the interest of protecting this sacred place. However, if not rejected outright, any decision on this project must be fully informed of the consequences of the decision, and only an EIS can provide the requisite information to make an informed decision.