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Comments: The Black Hills is not only an area of outstanding natural beauty but also a vital ecological zone that supports diverse flora and fauna. Introducing a mining operation would cause irreversible damage to the environment, including deforestation, loss of wildlife habitat, and contamination of water sources. Furthermore, local communities who depend on the land for farming, tourism, and cultural practices stand to suffer greatly.

Past cases have shown that such projects often prioritize short-term economic gain over long-term sustainability. We must protect our natural heritage and consider alternative development paths that do not compromise the environment or the well-being of future generations.

I urge you to reject the mining proposal and prioritize environmental conservation and community interests.