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First name: Anna

Last name: Serino

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Black Hills is a region renowned for its stunning natural beauty and serves as a crucial ecological area that sustains a wide variety of plant and animal life. The introduction of a mining operation in this area would result in irreversible environmental damage, including deforestation, destruction of wildlife habitats, and pollution of water sources. Additionally, the local communities that rely on this land for agriculture, tourism, and cultural activities would face significant hardships.

Historical evidence indicates that such projects often favor immediate economic benefits over long-term sustainability. It is imperative that we safeguard our natural heritage and explore alternative development strategies that do not harm the environment or jeopardize the well-being of future generations.

I strongly urge you to reject the mining proposal and prioritize the conservation of the environment and the interests of the community.