

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/17/2025 5:14:26 AM

First name: Paulette

Last name: Sando

Organization:

Title:

Comments: We express deep concern over any proposed mining or development activities in the Pe'Sla region of the Black Hills in South Dakota. Pe'Sla is not merely land-it is a sacred site of profound spiritual, cultural, and historical importance to the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota Nations. Any encroachment or exploitation of this sacred area without the full, free, and informed consent of tribal leaders is a violation of Indigenous rights and a disregard for centuries of spiritual tradition.

We urge government agencies, private interests, and all involved stakeholders to halt any actions that threaten Pe'Sla and to engage in meaningful consultation with the Oceti Sakowin (Seven Council Fires) leadership. True respect for tribal sovereignty and treaty rights requires listening to and honoring the voices of Indigenous communities, especially when their sacred lands are at risk.

Pe'Sla must be protected-not just as a matter of environmental concern, but as a matter of justice, cultural preservation, and human dignity.