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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Brett, and I'm writing because I care about the Black Hills and what happens to this land - for both the people who live here now and future generations.

I'm asking the Forest Service to require a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Ponderosa Exploration Project. This kind of thorough review is the least we can do before making decisions that could permanently alter our environment.

I'm especially worried about how this project could affect:

\*Water - our clean water is too precious to risk.

\*Cultural and historical places - once they're gone, we can't get them back.

\*Wildlife and natural areas that so many of us enjoy for hiking, camping, and simply feeling connected to nature.

\*And the local economy, which depends on preserving the beauty and health of this region.

I also urge you to extend the public comment period by 60 days. Something this important deserves more time for thoughtful community input.

Thank you for listening and for taking these concerns seriously. I hope you'll choose a path that puts people, land, and water first.