

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/4/2026 5:58:33 AM

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Comments: I've recently learned that a mining company is seeking permission to mine uranium in the Black Hills. This is very bad, indeed. The Black Hills in my understanding was land not taken over by white settlers, but allowed to become part of the lands where Indigenous peoples were promised they could hunt, fish, carry out sacred ceremonies and other cultural activities. Mining would pollute the area's land and water and set a precedent for more companies to be allowed mining rights. Uranium is a radioactive element that may make the area uninhabitable, especially if there were to be an accident, which is not unheard of in these kinds of situations. The Black Hills are sacred to the native population that inhabits the region and to all native people of what was once known as 'Turtle Island'. Please keep protecting the water and soil from contamination. And preserve the rights of native populations that have had so much taken from them. Use the law to protect rather than cause the slow deterioration of this beautiful place that could host many alternative economic development ideas such as eco tourism, renewable energy projects and other creative ideas. Please stand up and prioritize people rather than a corporation.

Thank you for your time and serious consideration of this life changing decision.