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Comments: I oppose of this project mainly for the potential damage quartz mining can cause to the watershed. Sedimentation from mining and prospecting activities can kill wildlife and impact Lake Winona, an important drinking water source for Little Rock and surrounding communities.

Open-pit mining operations also completely destroy top soil layers, killing all vegetation and destroying important wildlife habitat that can't be replaced by later remediation as soil horizons take hundreds-thousands of years to form.

Plus, the short term economic benefits of quartz mining pale in comparison to the generational benefits that outdoor recreation can provide. Hiking, biking, and hunting experiences will all be negatively affected by the change in viewshed, noise, extra traffic, and heavy disturbance that these mining activities will cause. The people of Arkansas as a whole benefit from an intact, albeit actively managed forest, versus an open-pit mine.