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Comments: I am writing in strong opposition to the proposed quartz mining on 337 acres of the Ouachita National Forest in the Jessieville-Winona-Fourche Ranger District. The draft EA's own findings are deeply alarming: mining near Crystal Mountain could increase sedimentation in the Lake Winona Watershed by 825%. Lake Winona is a primary drinking water source for approximately 500,000 Arkansans. This risk alone is disqualifying. Justifying irreversible environmental damage on the basis of market demand for quartz is insufficient grounds for permitting industrial open-pit mining in a protected national forest. I urge the Forest Service to: 1. Adopt the "no action" alternative and deny all new mining permits. 2. require a full EIS rather than relying on the current EA. 3. Remove all tracts that drain into Lake Winona or other public water supplies from consideration entirely. The Ouachita National Forest exists to protect natural resources and serve the public. not to be opened to commercial extraction when markets find it convenient.