

FROM :

FAX NO. :

May. 31 1999 12:17AM P1

Margaret Ruth Laffey



May 1, 2025

2:10pm

FAX

Robert J. Thompson,
Mystic Ranger District,
Black Hills National Forest,
FAX: 605-343-7134

Comments on :
Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project.
3pages including Fax sheet

MARGARET RUTH LAFFEY



May 1, 2025

BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST,
Mystic Ranger District,
Attn: Robert J. Thompson
FAX: 605-343-7134

RE: Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project

Dear Mr. Thompson,

Please find enclosed, comments regarding the proposed ' Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project ' near the boundary of Pe' Sla, in Central South Dakota.

- The Sacred Area of Pe' Sla,
- The Drilling for graphite,
- The land issues past, current and future.

The ' **Sacred Area of Pe' Sla** ' of which the Drilling Project by Pete Lien and Family, for the minerals of graphite, is very sacred to the Oceti Sakowin,(the 7 Council Fires, and Lakota Nation), the Cheyenne, Arapaho, as well as, many Tribes of not only South Dakota, but also, of the United States and Europe.

The proposed Drilling Project is too close to Pe' Sla and the area sounding it . It is the center of the Black Hills and surrounded by mountain areas, which, in history, was uplifted, and considered, Sacred Land by many people who understand the importance, honor, and Spiritual meaning, for and to the Indigenous Nations of this Country and World.

The ' Drilling for graphite, which is used in several areas, one of being, electric cars is also dangerous as it combines with lithium in the creation of the batteries for the cars, as well as, other areas. The drilling itself is problematic for such a Sacred Site as, even with exploratory work, the drilling upsets the area and with the problem of mistakes which can and do happen, it is a danger for the important Sacred area.

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The graphite drilling would go down 700 to 1000 feet with horizontal drilling, as well as, to the sides, similar to the fracking mining. The amount of water used is also tremendous and brings out, again, the overflow for aquifers and contamination, which, being so closely drilled, from what the explanations describe, would also interfere with the Sacred Areas of Pe' Sla.

On top that, there would be sand issues, air qualities and, moving ground which would be transferred to the nearest land area which in calculations, would be Pe' Sla. It would also involve land movement from the drilling, which brings me to the last point listed above—

Land Issues of deformation, earthquake capabilities, and the current problem of magma moving into the areas from cracked rocks, earthquakes and earth movement. All of this possibly happening under conditions which can and should be avoided when dealing with a Sacred Site.

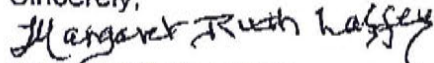
It is already known, that earthquakes are happening in South Dakota—Custer State Park and west of Pierre area.

The uplifting of mountains has begun in this Country again, as example of latest News articles. The Black Hills was specially created by an uplift, years ago and the event from drilling has now become a danger with magma rising, as I know that you are aware of.

This project proposed by Pete Lien and Family, I understand that they mean well, but have chosen an area which is very Sacred to the Lakota, Nakota and Dakota Peoples, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Etc. as well as, through the World.

I thank you, pilamayaye, in Lakota, for your time in reading and understanding the problems in drilling for graphite near such a sacred Site as Pe' Sla.

Sincerely,



Margaret Ruth Laffey

Resident of the Black Hills