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First name: Whitney

Last name: Spears

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposed Pete Lien and Sons Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project is a direct imposition on Indigenous sacred spaces like Pe Sla which have been maintained for hundreds of years and painstakingly protected through the hard-fought financial and political efforts of multiple tribes. The US Supreme Court determined in 1980, in the US vs the Sioux Nation, that this land, which was pledged to the Sioux Nation in the Treaty of Fort Laramie, was illegally seized by the federal government. According to the United States Constitution, treaties are "the ultimate law of the land." Ongoing discussions about appropriating these lands for commercial use and mineral extraction should not even be legally feasible, according to the Treaty of Fort Laramie and the United States Constitution.

Pe Sla's federal Indian trust status, specifically, was granted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in 2016 and acknowledged by Pennington County in 2017. This site is one that is of great cultural significance to the Lakota and other tribes, and also carries significant archaeological and historical value. It is a site that is frequented by ceremonial practitioners of multiple tribes, discussed, and taught about in numerous tribal colleges and universities. Although the site does not house a man-made structure, its significance is of comparable importance to tribal nations as that of a great basilica or temple, for other cultures. Placing such a site under threat of damage, disturbance, or destruction, would be a gross and inhumane miscalculation on the part of developers.