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Comments: I am formally asking for an extension on the commenting period for this project, so people in Pennington county and the Sioux tribal regions can have true time and space to share their thoughts about what goes on in their locality. That does not seem radical to me, it seems right- I am asking you as an organization to be accountable to the people in your community, for more than just one month. And can I question why the comment period for this proposed project is so shortened to begin with? Perhaps because the company of Pete Lien & Sons is eager to begin exploratory drilling without wanting to hear much from the community they are based in. Perhaps because the review period where residents of Pennington County can voice their concerns about yet another mining project threatening the watershed and important natural sites of the Black Hills is seen as something to be briefly acknowledged and then brushed aside.

Four Sioux tribes have worked tirelessly with the state to ensure the stewardship of the lands in the Black Hills. Pete Lien & Sons says they are socially responsible for stewardship here as well. So let there be due process, and let there be social accountability for this project. Thank you for your time.