Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/6/2025 8:36:24 PM

First name: Sonja Last name: Swift Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write a landowner committed to protecting the health of the land and water I am responsible for care taking in the southern Black Hills.

I have serious concerns about the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project immediately adjacent to Pe' Sla. Such exploration risks contaminating water in the upper Rapid Creek watershed (given that the proposed drill pads are in close proximity to streams), and also has high potential for contamination / cross-contamination of underground water sources.

Specifically, I request 1) a 60-day extension of the public comment period, so more people get a chance to weigh in with comments and concerns, and 2) that the Forest Service to do an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project, which should be standard protocol.

Stop mining the Black Hills. Protect the water. Honor Pe' Sla as the sacred site that it is.