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First name: Meera

Last name: Doshi

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comment Opposing the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project

I strongly oppose the proposed Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling project by Peter Lien & Sons. This project poses not only severe environmental risks but also represents a profound violation of Indigenous rights and a desecration of one of the most sacred Lakota cultural and spiritual sites-Pe'Sla.

Pe'Sla is a vital location for the Lakota, Dakota, and Nakota peoples. It is a place of annual ceremony, spiritual connection, and cultural continuity that cannot be relocated or replaced. To allow industrial mining operations at or near this site is to blatantly disregard the religious freedoms, treaty rights, and sovereignty of Tribal Nations. It is a clear act of cultural erasure and environmental injustice.

Furthermore, Pe'Sla lies within the Black Hills, a region guaranteed to the Lakota people under the 1851 and 1868 Fort Laramie Treaties. Ignoring these legal protections perpetuates the long history of broken agreements and systemic oppression that Indigenous communities have faced for generations.

This project must not move forward. We have a responsibility-to the planet, to the law, and to the dignity of Indigenous peoples-to protect sacred lands from exploitation. I urge the relevant authorities to deny this proposal and to honor the sovereignty, culture, and spiritual heritage of the Lakota people.

Protect Pe'Sla. Respect Tribal rights. Say no to this destructive drilling project.