Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/12/2025 9:18:25 PM First name: Tim Last name: Whitnah Organization: Title:

Comments: Aside from the environmental dangers of this project, the greater impact is the location near the sacred site known as Pe'Sla. This project is a violation of Tribal treaty rights and an attack on Indigenous cultural values.

Pe'Sla is an ancient holy site to which the Lakota people still return for ceremonial gathering annually, as well as for individual spiritual purposes throughout the year. This site is irreplaceable to multiple tribe's religious practices.

The entire Black Hills belongs to the sovereign nation of the Oceti Šakówi?. Do they approve of Pete Lien and Sons drilling?

Under the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie, the Sioux Nation Tribes are the legal and rightful owners of the Black Hills, South Dakota. Even though the later Act of February 28, 1877, purportedly took the Black Hills from the Sioux Nation, many tribes continue to dispute the legality of this action by the U.S. Government. The Sioux Nations obtained a ruling by the U.S. Court of Federal Claims that the Act of 1877 violated the Fifth Amendment. The court ruled the Sioux Nations were entitled to monetary damages, which they rejected, because accepting the money would relinquish their land claims.