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First name: Susan

Last name: Bassein

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear SD Forest service, my name is Susan Bassein and I'm a concerned citizen. I'm writing to comment and express my opposition to the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Project that would be located in the sacred ?e Sápa (Black Hills). The Black Hills are significant for many reasons. Most prominently, they are one of South Dakota's most biodiverse areas and are highly valued and respected by the Lakota people. The proposed site of this project is near Pe'Sla, which is a sacred site where the Lakota people do ceremonies annually. This project, along with the others that have already been approved, would only further contaminate these sacred lands and strip the Lakota people of their rights to the land. Therefore, I urge you to assure that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is followed precisely and a full environmental impact statement is conducted. Knowing that the NEPA process has been cut down to only 28 days, I also urge you to put a 60- day extension on the "scoping" public comment period, so that everyone has an opportunity to make a comment.