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Comments: I oppose the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project. This project is proposed too close to Pe' Sla, a sacred site for the indigenous Lakota people where they return for ceremonies multiple times through out the year. The exploration project could contaminate water in the upper Rapid Creek watershed, with some proposed drill pads very close to streams. There is also the potential for contamination or cross-contamination of underground water sources.

For these reasons, I request a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, so everyone has an opportunity to comment. The Forest Service should additionally conduct an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project before proceeding with a decision.