

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 12:34:50 AM

First name: Rebecca

Last name: Cramer

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear US Forest service, I am a non-Native elder woman who stands in allyship with the Black Hills-located Native American Tribes and I'm concerned about the loss and degradation of natural spaces throughout the Upper Midwest where I live. I have visited the Black Hills region and recognize the unique beauty of the area. 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). I am specifically concerned about denigration of water resources for the region. 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. I also urge you to put a 60-day extension on the "scoping" public comment period.