

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 12:55:26 AM

First name: Oscar

Last name: High Elk

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hau mitakuyapi/Dear US Forest service, my name is Oscar High Elk and I'm Oohenumpa of the Titunwan Oyate aka Oceti Sakowin, a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. 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 the plant life, four legged relatives, winged relatives and mother earth . 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. Mitakuye Oyasin