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First name: June

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in regards to Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. I very strongly urge you to grant a 60-day extension of the public comment period to allow everyone a chance to weigh in on this important matter.

I am strongly opposed to this project not only for the negative environmental impacts, which are significant, but also and most importantly because this is ground that is sacred to the Lakota, who hold their traditional ceremonial practices in this area. We wouldn't dream of drilling within a synagogue or a cathedral, and it's the same thing here. All people and all religions must be respected; there are other places to conduct such a project, but the Lakota have no other place to hold the ceremonies they have traditionally held here. We haven't respected most of the treaties we made with the Tribes over the years, but we can do better now and respect their sacred lands.