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First name: Nina

Last name: Grant

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'll help you create a thoughtful comment for the US Forest Service. Here's a draft you can use or modify:

Dear US Forest Service,

I am writing to express my deep concern about the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838 and to request immediate action regarding the public comment process.

The Black Hills hold immense value to me not only as a natural treasure of unparalleled beauty and ecological importance, but also as a sacred landscape to the Lakota people that deserves our utmost protection. These ancient forests, pristine watersheds, and diverse ecosystems support countless species and provide essential services to surrounding communities.

Regarding the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838, I respectfully request a 60-day extension of the current scoping public comment period. This extension is critical to ensure that all stakeholders, including local residents, environmental organizations, and especially the Lakota Nation, have adequate time to review the proposal and provide meaningful input on this significant project.

I strongly oppose this drilling project for several compelling reasons. First, the potential negative environmental impacts cannot be overstated. Exploratory drilling in this sensitive ecosystem risks contaminating groundwater, disturbing wildlife habitat, and damaging the integrity of this pristine landscape. The Black Hills' delicate balance could be irreversibly harmed by industrial mining activities.

Second, this project would cause profound disruption to traditional ceremonial practices that are central to Lakota spirituality and culture. The Black Hills are sacred to the Lakota people, and any industrial activity in this area represents a continuation of historical injustices and a violation of their spiritual connection to this land.

Given the significant environmental, cultural, and spiritual impacts at stake, I urge the Forest Service to require a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project. A thorough EIS is essential to fully understand and evaluate all potential consequences before any drilling activities are permitted.

Thank you for your consideration of these critical concerns.

Sincerely,
Nina Grant