Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 2:46:56 AM

First name: Peggy Last name: Cope Organization:

Title:

Comments: I grew up in South Dakota, and among the many outdoor spaces that I camped and enjoyed throughout the state in my 22 years there, the Black Hills are my favorite. I greatly oppose this project (Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838), the lack of time provided for comments, and the lack of an appropriate Environmental Impact Statement. I am very concerned about the potential negative impacts of this project on the pristine spaces, flora and fauna, and the quality of an important water source. I respect and value the Lakota people, and the disruption of their traditional ceremonial practices, in a place where they have already sacrificed so much space for the benefit of every visitor to the Black Hills, is also unacceptable. I support the request for a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, so everyone has an opportunity to comment, and the requirement of a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project.