

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 8:50:58 AM

First name: Patricia

Last name: Witten

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Regarding Pete Lien and Sons Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838:

Black Hills Clean Water Alliance (BHCWA) research tells us that proposed 18 drill pads for exploration could contaminate water in the upper Rapid Creek watershed, with some proposed drill pads very close to streams. There is also the potential for contamination or cross-contamination of underground water sources.

Therefore, I respectfully request:

* A 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, so everyone has an opportunity to comment

*The Forest Service must require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project.

* The Black Hills are religious ground to Native Americans and mining carries potential negative environmental impacts and the disruption of traditional ceremonial practices for Lakota People.

Thank you.