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First name: Emily

Last name: Cavin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to tell the US Forest Service not to allow the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. The time is now for all of us to stand up to protect our environment, our water resources, and the rights of indigenous Americans and the sanctity of their sacred lands. The "scoping" public period for this project needs to be extended for 60 days to encourage and allow as many affected and interested citizens to have their voices heard as possible.

If the present generation does not prioritize the remaining pristine, wild places and the ability of the first Americans, including the Lakotas, the native peoples of this land, to continue their spiritual practices that honor the Earth who sustains us all as sacred, history will not judge us kindly. Nor will our children and grandchildren, and generations of our descendants be able to thrive on land and with resources devastated by careless, extractive practices that value money over a sustainable way of life on Earth.

The Forest Service needs to be in the business of preserving the natural resources and systems that make the cycles of life for all beings possible in this country and in our world instead of aiding commerce and business at the expense of water, air, land, wildlife, and the traditional ways of America's indigenous communities.