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Comments: I am writing to urge respect and protection for the sacred Lakota site in the Black Hills, the Pe' Sla, which is threatened by mining interests. The specific project is Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838.

As the Black Hills Clean Water Alliance (BHCWA) has pointed out, this project is immediately adjacent to - and some proposed drill pads might encroach on - Pe' Sla. Maps are vague, but, in their words, "by any definition, the project is too close!"

The Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project poses grave environmental threats to the Pe' Sea and potential disruption of traditional ceremonial practices for Lakotas.

I urge the Forest Service to provide a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, so everyone has an opportunity to comment. The Forest Service should also require an Environmental Impact Statement prior to any drilling.

Thank you for your consideration.