

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/14/2025 5:04:40 PM

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Comments: First of all, I request that the scoping public comment period be extended by 60 days, as this current timeline is way too short of a period for such a BIG decision. The public deserves the right to weigh in more completely than 6 weeks allows.

The Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming are gorgeous, wild, rugged and free from development, at least partly under the auspices of Native Lakota management. The area proposed for this Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838 is pristine, untouched and beautiful. The area they wish to drill in is highly likely to pollute the waters, the air, and the silences, and really disrupt and desecrate the entire ecosystem. There is no such thing as surgical mining, or surgical drilling for minerals. By creating loud, dirty, drill pads, drilling, vibrations, incursions into streams and underground water, and roads filled with equipment and oblivious humans- bringing all of this into a pristine ecosystem, you ruin that ecosystem. It will be beyond recovery in our grandchildren's lifetimes.

At the very minimum, an Environmental Impact Statement must be produced!!

And as this is an actively used area for Lakota spiritual practices, and with all the promises we have broken to them, this would be a huge, devastating and terrible loss to have the sanctity of this place broken by mining.