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Comments: I am opposed the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project.

Isn't it protocol to do an Environmental Impact Study prior to allowing any exploratory drilling and/or mining?? If it isn't, it should be and I would like to request that an Environmental Impact Study is done prior to any approval or denial be given for this project.

I would also like to request for a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, so everyone has an opportunity to comment .

I am curious as to how much input has been given to the Lakotas considering this is an area that is vital for their sacred, traditional ceremonial practices? Have you discussed how this would impact them with them? I'm not sure how you can justify disrupting sacred, traditional ceremonial practices.

I believe great consideration should be given to the Lakotas as well as consideration of the negative environmental impacts any mining, drilling, etc., would have on this pristine ecosystem. We are in a delicate time where environmental impact has to be prioritized, and it certainly goes without saying that the Lakota must play a vital role in any decision making regarding this area.

Thank you for your time and consideration!