Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/15/2025 10:38:56 AM

First name: Bridget Last name: Stevens Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. The Lakota deserve to have their sacred land protected and water sources should always be protected. BHCWA's research tells us that "the project would involve 18 drill pads. Exploration could contaminate water in the upper Rapid Creek watershed, with some proposed drill pads very close to streams. And there is also the potential for contamination or cross-contamination of underground water sources."

The Forest Service should require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project, and all projects. The historical precedent of money over treaties, profits over safe water and best practices is well documented. Please reject this drilling project, and its impact on the Lakota peoples.