

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/16/2025 5:30:23 AM

First name: Jaclyn

Last name: Pab&#243;n

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly oppose and request that you do not continue/start the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. I also request a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period.

To drill and desecrate land in and around Pe' Sla, a sacred site, to which Lakota people return annually and multiple times throughout the year for ceremonial purposes, is horrific. That land is protected and Lakota people have fought and are fighting to keep that so. The project only furthers the constant exploitation of indigenous lands, their sacred sites, and practices. At the very least, treaties need to be respected.

It will not only be blatantly disrespectful and oppressive, but detrimental to our earth and health. The company has already had complaints from local residents about their already established drilling sites/mines resulting in poor air quality. Now, on top of that, they could contaminate water in the upper Rapid Creek watershed, due to the proximity to nearby streams. The area is also well-known for its underground water sources that are subject to contamination due to proximity as well. This will result in a direct hazard to local residents. Our earth is already suffering at an alarming rate. We need to do everything in our power to listen and protect our planet. No matter the person or their position or if they even care or are aware, we are all suffering in the end.