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First name: Angela Last name: Widdowson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I state my opposition to Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838 and its proximity to Pe' Sla, a place sacred to the Lakota people. I care about both the preservation of pristine wilderness and ceremonial grounds of indigenous people.

As a white, non-indigenous person, I have never been on native land. I have not gotten the opportunity to visit the Black Hills, but if I do in the future, I would grieve to see its waterways and ecosystem trashed by extractive mining.

Enough has been taken from them! Even besides the repeated insults to indigenous sovereignty, we as a global society are taking too much from everyone on this earth and the generations that follow us via unsustainable capitalistic growth. Greed. Theft! We as a species risk a long age of darkness, physical and spiritual disease, if we refuse to respect and connect with our mother earth, the source of all life. I believe in human ingenuity to seek out far less harmful ways to support our technological infrastructure for common good.

As a friend to the earth and to our indigenous, I request a 60-day extension of the "scoping" public comment period, and please require an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for this project. May the truth set us free.