

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/16/2025 6:25:45 PM

First name: Aja

Last name: Mattise-Lorenzen

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear South Dakota Forest Service,

My name is Aja Mattise-Lorenzen, and I am a concerned citizen who spent much of my childhood in and around the Black Hills. I am writing to comment and express my opposition to the Rochford Mineral Exploratory Project that would be located in the sacred ?e Sápa (Black Hills). This area is not only one of the most biodiverse places in South Dakota, but also one of the most culturally significant places for the Lakota people. Pe' Sla, a ceremonial site, is extremely close to the proposed site for this project. This project, along with the others that have already been approved, would only further contaminate these sacred lands and strip the Lakota people of their rights to the land. Therefore, I urge you to assure that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is followed precisely and a full environmental impact assessment is conducted. Knowing that the NEPA process has been cut down to only 28 days, I also urge you to put a 60-day extension on the public comment period.

Thank you,

Aja Mattise-Lorenzen