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First name: Caitlin

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in opposition to the Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. My family has a cabin near Rochford where we have enjoyed nature that the Black Hills offers for four generations. Forest Service lands should be preserved for future generations of families to enjoy. It is disheartening that a project that is likely to negatively impact the land and the water in this area is being considered. The environmental impact must be studied more carefully before a private company is allowed to mine for materials at the expense of our public lands. At the very least, we must complete an Environmental Impact Statement. Additionally, as a person with no indigenous ancestry, I find it troubling that the proposed drill sites will likely have a negative effect on the sacred lands of the Lakota. The Lakota have already lost so much at the hands of the U.S. government and of private companies. I urge you to break this cycle and respect their traditions and ties to the land.