Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/16/2025 6:57:01 PM First name: Layne Last name: Lebahn Organization: Title:

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the proposed Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838. This project endangers and desecrates land sacred to Lakota people. Lakota have considered this land, called Pe' Sla in Lakota, to be sacred for milennia, and it plays a central role in creation stories.

According to Taylor Gunhammer, an Oglala Lakota, "Drilling at Pe' Sla would be like drilling under the Vatican or at a sacred site in Jerusalem. Under any circumstances, it is not a place to be considering mining."

I am urging the US Forest Service to deny the proposed project as it will have lasting devastating impact on a site of great cultural and religious importance to Lakota people, and will further degrade the dwindling natural spaces that are used and enjoyed by all Americans.