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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to appose the "Pete Lien and Sons Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838." This project violates the Constitution, various federal laws, and federal laws.

The Constitution states that treaties, including Indian treaties, are the "supreme law of the land." The United States signed the Ft. Laramie Treaty of 1868 with the Great Sioux Nation, which set aside what is now known as Western South Dakota for the undisturbed use of the Sioux Indians. Any action, without the consent of the Sioux Nation is illegal. The Sioux Nation has not approved this action. A violation of the treaty is a violation of the Constitution and violation of federal law.

The proposed action violates the religious freedoms the Lakota. The proposed drilling site is located next to Pesla, a site central to the religious practices of the Lakota. Any activity that would interfere with the use of Pesla would infringe upon the individual and collective religious freedoms and rights of individual Lakota and group rights of the Lakota.

The proposed action runs counter to accepted federal practices of consultation with Indian tribes on any action that would impact tribal governments and their citizens. There has been no consultation with the federally recognized tribes who hold long standing and recognized treaty rights to federal lands where the proposed project is located.

Finally, the proposed project creates potential for harm to the natural environment, ecosystem, and drinking water of the Black Hills. It is important that the integrity of the Black Hills remain intact so as to ensure the health of the natural environment and preservation of drinking water for the general population.

In light of the facts presented the "Pete Lien and Sons Rochford Mineral Exploratory Drilling Project #67838" must not move forward.