

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/16/2025 11:02:37 PM

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Comments: Mineral drilling is disturbance to land that breaks up the plants and soil that keep the water clean, and can introduce metals into the local waters via discharge of contaminated drilling fluids. This impacts the surrounding ecosystem and the local communities that all rely on clean water. The exploratory drilling is planned on indigenous lands, and destruction on indigenous lands should not be allowed at a supposed post-colonial time when we should all have learned to value equality, which includes respecting everyone's right to live with dignity. Indigenous rights and respect for their land cannot be treated as an afterthought. Lakota members have said that Pe' Sla is a ceremonial site prominent in traditional Lakota creation stories, and would be akin to drilling under the Vatican or at a sacred site in Jerusalem. The project is not supported by the Lakota people, and if they oppose it, there is a reason for it that will protect not just the indigenous community but all people and plants and wildlife that live around this Black Hills forest land.