

*cc: JP + Custer  
Co. Commissioners*

**NOTICE OF FILING  
APPLICATION FOR SMALL SCALE MINING PERMIT**

Robert Larson 12140 Tara Road, Custer, South Dakota 57730, and Patrick Dillon, PO Box 611, Custer, South Dakota 57730, hereby give notice that an application for a permit to operate a placer mine has been filed with the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The legal location of the operation is SE1/4 Section 28; T3S-R4E, Custer County. The general location is approximately 1 mile west of Custer, South Dakota. The primary mineral mined is gold.

Robert Larson and Patrick Dillon will affect no more than 10 acres during the 15 to 20-year life of the operation. The mining operation will be conducted in two phases. During Phase 1, several small pits will be excavated, and the material mined will be processed with a wash plant located in the proposed affected area. The wash plant consists of a grizzly, trommel, sluice, screens, heavy particle collectors, a settling pond, and pumps. During Phase 2, a portion of French Creek that flows through the proposed mining area will be mined. Topsoil and overburden will be stripped and stockpiled prior to mining. Reclamation will be conducted concurrently with the mining operation, and the land will be reclaimed to grazing land.

A copy of the application may be reviewed at the Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, on the Minerals and Mining Program Webpage at <http://denr.sd.gov/des/mmm/newminepermits.aspx>, or at the Custer County Register of Deeds office in Custer, South Dakota. Written objections to, statements in support of, or petitions to intervene and become party to the proceedings pursuant to ARSD 74:29:01:09 must be filed with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources no later than August 29, 2012.

The permit will be issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources if no petitions to intervene are received and if the department's recommendation is for approval or conditional approval. The department will issue its recommendation on September 5, 2012. If no petitions contesting the recommendation are received within seven days after the issuance of the recommendation, the department's recommendation will become effective September 12, 2012. The permit application will be approved, conditionally approved, or denied accordingly.

Persons desiring further information about this permit application may contact Eric Holm, Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501 (phone (605) 773-4201).