



Fall River County Conservation District
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February 12, 2013

DENR
PMB 2020
Joe Foss Building
523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3182

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MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

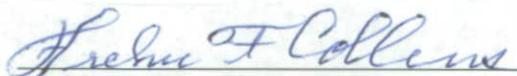
Dear Department of Environment and Natural Resources,

Serving the local Conservation District for Fall River County; we, as the board, oppose the planned uranium mining coming to the area. We feel that the risk and devastation it will do to our environment is not worth the benefits. The District is here to help protect our land, water, and air quality. If key environmental resources are contaminated, small, rural communities will be unable to survive. Our area is a dry arid landscape, water is a huge commodity. Currently, our county is considered to be in a high drought area (according to the national drought monitor map). We feel the open leach fields pose a threat to our air quality and harm to our wildlife. The land will be destroyed for future use. Even if the grazing land is restored to preconditions it will take a long time for recovery. Recovery after large scale mining operations tends to be more expensive than expected and the cost falls on our local tax payers.

The Conservation District for Fall River County would like to make note that we, as a board, do not support this large scale mining permit from Powertech. The risk to the environment and local area is not worth the benefits Powertech is offering.

Sincerely,

Fall River Conservation Board


Archie Collins, Chairman


Mark Keffeler, Supervisor


Peggy Porter, Supervisor


John Sides, Vice Chairman


Dewane Stearns, Supervisor


Julie Tomlinson, District Manager

CLEAN. CLEAR.CONSERVATION.