



**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182

denr.sd.gov

January 16, 2013

Richard Blubaugh
Vice President of Health, Safety and Environmental Resources
Powertech (USA), Inc.
5575 DTC Parkway, Suite #140
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Re: Request for Time Extension – Powertech Dewey – Burdock Project Large Scale Mine Permit Application

Dear Mr. Blubaugh:

Due to the complex technical issues regarding the Powertech Dewey – Burdock Project Large Scale Mine Permit application and a tight review schedule, the department has determined that additional time is required to do a thorough review of the technical contents of the application. The department requests that Powertech concur with, and stipulate to, a time extension not to exceed 45 days (reference SDCL 45-6B-30). Normally, the Board of Minerals and Environment has 90 days to set the hearing date (reference SDCL 45-6B-30).

The technical review will involve complex considerations of site geochemistry and water quality issues which are vital to understanding the environmental impacts of the project. In addition, as this is expected to be a contested case hearing, the department and Powertech will need time to prepare their presentations.

With a time extension, a hearing before the Board of Minerals and Environment would need to be scheduled within 135 days of the date of filing (January 16, 2013). This would place the hearing in mid-May.

The department appreciates your cooperation in this matter. Should you have any questions concerning this time extension, please contact the Minerals and Mining Program at (605) 773-4201.

Sincerely,

\s/

Michael D Cepak
Engineering Manager I
Minerals and Mining Program
South Dakota Department of Environment and natural Resources

cc: Roxanne Giedd, Attorney General's Office