

State Board Postpones Powertech Hearings

ADVISORY: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2013

For more information: Kim Smith, (605) 773-3152

PIERRE, S.D. – The state Board of Minerals and Environment (BME) has postponed next week's scheduled contested case permit hearings involving Powertech (USA) Inc.'s application for a large scale mine permit. The second of two weeks of hearings were scheduled to be held Nov. 11-15 in Rapid City. The first week of hearings was held Sept. 23-27.

No dates have been set to continue the hearings.

The [Order](#) issued on Tuesday postponing next week's hearings says the board will not continue its hearings until the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have ruled and set the federal surety, and the state Water Management Board has decided the water rights. The Order further states that until those areas are completed "...the BME cannot conditionally approve the permit and fulfill its statutory duties."

Powertech needs several local, state and federal permits before proposed in situ uranium mining can begin near Edgemont in southwestern South Dakota.