

South Dakota Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
Attn: Mike Cepak - Minerals and Mining Program
523 E. Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

RECEIVED
OCT 12 2011
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

RE: Wharf Expansion Project.

Dear Mr. Cepak:

I am a parent and member of the community in Lead, SD, and I support the proposed expansion at the Wharf Mine. I have witnessed firsthand many of the positive things Wharf has done for the local community; from cleaning trash off Hwy 473 to providing scholarships for graduating seniors. The 150 or so jobs it creates also benefits Lead and the surrounding communities. Approval of Wharf's Expansion Project will allow these jobs to continue. In addition, Wharf and its employees will continue to spend money in the community, in Lawrence County and in South Dakota.

I urge you to approve Wharf's Expansion Project.

Sincerely,

Tony Auld



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RE: Wharf Expansion Project.

Dear Mr. Cepak:

I am the General Mine Foreman for Wharf Resources; I am pleased to express my support for the application of Wharf Resources to expand mining operations at the Wharf Mine in Lawrence County. Extending the life of the Wharf Mine will continue to impact the state of South Dakota in a positive manner for years to come.

For over the past 25 years the Wharf Mine has been a major contributor to the economy and way of life for South Dakota citizens, providing jobs, tax revenue, and community involvement. Wharf currently employs over 125 people who have developed roots in Lawrence County and its surrounding communities; with the approval of Wharfs Expansion Project those roots will even grow deeper.

In the 1800's the mining industry help develop and carve the western part of South Dakota, it was a huge impact with great importance. Today the mining industry still has that same impact, but with some very modern changes, and Wharf Resources is continually changing and making improvements so that they can continue to be excellent stewards of the land and for the employees to go home safe to their families

For these reasons alone, I urge you to approve the Wharf Expansion Project.

Sincerely,

