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

RECEIVED
OCT 28 2011
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

10/23/11

**RE: Wharf Expansion Project.**

Dear Mr. Cepak:

My name is Bruce Evans and I am a landowner in the Lost Camp Development area by the Wharf mine. I am also an avid skier at Terry Peak. I am in favor of the proposed expansion project of the Wharf mine for several reasons.

First, I think it will result in a more esthetically pleasing appearance to the reclaimed area at the former Golden Reward Mine. That area is currently a large barren looking open field. It does not blend well with the surrounding landscape and forest. As I understand it, after the new mining is completed, this area will be reclaimed in a different way that allows for some trees to be planted in the reclaimed area. I think that would look more esthetically pleasing than the current appearance.

Second, I think the upgrades to the infrastructure of the road and ski area will increase the property values of all the homes in the Lost Camp development.

Finally, I am certain the financial impact of the approximately 150 high quality jobs will benefit the Northern Black Hills economy greatly for an additional 7-8 years.

In my opinion, Wharf has been a trustworthy company that has been extremely careful about preventing environmental accidents during its mining operations. I fully expect them to continue their track record of responsible mining and encourage you to approve the Wharf Expansion Project.

Sincerely

Bruce C Evans MD DDS MS.

Dr. Bruce Evans
21113 Barefoot Loop
Lead, SD 57732