

RECEIVED
OCT 17 2011
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

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

RE: Wharf Expansion Project.

Dear Mr. Cepak:

I am writing to support the application of Wharf Resources to expand mining operations at the Wharf Mine in Lawrence County.

Wharf is a conscientious operator and an excellent steward of the land. Mining at the Wharf Mine provides 150 high quality jobs for the area. Approval of Wharf's Expansion Project will allow these jobs to continue for an additional 7 to 8 years. In addition, Wharf will continue to spend millions of dollars each year, the majority of this in Lawrence County and South Dakota, to purchase supplies and services for the Mine.

I have worked with Wharf Resources as a subcontractor since 1992 with Karns Machinery thru 1998. In 1999 I opened Jacobs Precision Welding and have maintained work through Wharf as a subcontractor. Wharf has been 20% plus of our gross sales since 1999. Wharf continues to provide work and jobs for many local businesses such as myself in addition to their 150 employees.

In addition to providing high quality jobs in our community Wharf continues to make generous donations to our schools, youth programs, law enforcement and numerous community organizations. Not only is Wharf generous with cash donations, their employees also donate their time in our community organizations and activities.

The expansion of mining operations at the Wharf Mine in Lawrence County will ensure security for Wharf employees, local businesses and our community.

I urge you to approve Wharf's Expansion Project.

Sincerely,



Chad Jacobs - President - Jacobs Precision Welding

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523 E Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Wharf Expansion Project.

Dear Mr. Cepak,

I am writing to express my support for the expansion of the mining operations at the Wharf Resources Mine in Lead, Lawrence County, South Dakota.

I began working at Wharf Resources 22 years ago and consider myself to be very lucky to have found a great job that has allowed me to stay in South Dakota and especially in the Lead-Deadwood area to raise my family.

I consider Wharf Resources to be a very valuable member of this community and I feel they have accomplished wonderful things and helped a multitude of people and businesses in this area. Wharf not only donates money to a long list of business in the community, but does a lot to help the citizens through scholarships and community service activities. Wharf also has a wonderful program where students enrolled in college programs can work during the summer months for extra money and receive an excellent wage to help pay for their tuition. Our daughter plans on doing this throughout her college years and this will greatly assist in allowing her to attend college.

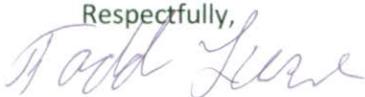
Without the jobs that the mine provides, there would be a great deal of people in this area without good paying employment and without any type of benefits. Wharf also has a wonderful track record for safety and is very committed to working with the surrounding communities to make sure that safety is a number one concern. Without the tax base they provide, I just wonder what this would do to the property taxes for the people of Lawrence County.

My family and I love living in Lead and the Black Hills and without Wharf Resources I would not be able to stay in this area, since there are not many other good paying jobs to be found. The commitment Wharf Resources has shown to its employees, our families, the community and surrounding area, makes me very proud to be a part of the Wharf Team. Not approving the expansion of the Wharf Mine would have negative consequences for the employees and their families and also to the surrounding communities.

I hope that you will strongly consider voting for the Wharf Mine Expansion Project.

Thank you.

Respectfully,



Todd Luze
423 Spark Street
Lead, SD 57754
605-920-0063