



## LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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RECEIVED  
OCT 26 2011  
MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

October 25, 2011

South Dakota DENR  
Attn: Mike Cepak – Mineral Mining Program  
523 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Wharf Expansion Project

Dear Mr Cepak:

I am writing on behalf of the Lawrence County Commission. The Commission unanimously supports the application of Wharf Resources to expand mining operations at the Wharf Mine in Lawrence County.

Wharf has proven itself as a conscientious operator, and an excellent steward of the land. Equally true is that Wharf provides 150 high quality jobs for the area. Approval of Wharf's proposed expansion will allow these jobs to remain in place for an additional 7 to 8 years. In addition, Wharf will spend millions of dollars each year while operations continue – the majority of these expenditures to occur in Lawrence County, and South Dakota, generally – to purchase supplies and services for the mine.

Wharf and its employees are valuable community members and good neighbors. They support our schools, youth groups, law enforcement, and numerous community organizations and activities.

Again, on behalf of the Lawrence County Commission, I urge the state Commission to approve the Wharf expansion project.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daryl Johnson', written over a horizontal line.

Daryl Johnson, Chairman



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Attention: Mr. Mike Cepak-Minerals and Mining Program

523 E. Capitol

Pierre, SD 57501

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**RE: Wharf Resources Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Cepak,

I am writing in support of the application of Wharf Resources to expand mining operations at the Wharf Mine near Lead, SD.

I have been a Wharf employee since 1992 and in these years, I can truly say that I have worked for a company that cares not only about the economic impact it makes in Lawrence County and the State of South Dakota, but also the social impact it makes on the communities where its employees live.

Wharf employees and their families are active members of the communities in which they live. We are school board members, fire fighters, EMT's, Social Workers, as well as church volunteers and committee members for various civic organizations such as Good Sheppard Clinic, High School Booster Clubs, and local food pantries.

We are citizens who are good neighbors that support growth within our communities socially and economically. We care about our communities and making an impact. Our employment at the Wharf Mine and the ability to live and work in this beautiful area allow us to make a difference where we live. We work for a company that fosters this type of impact and encourages us to make a difference by having training programs and avenues that encourage us to be socially responsible.

I strongly urge you to approve Wharf's Expansion Project so we can continue to contribute to our communities!

Sincerely,



Larry Bakke

510 Maple Drive

Spearfish, SD 57783

605-641-9890