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MINERALS & MINING PROGRAM

December 1, 2008

Eric Holm
Natural Resource Engineer
Minerals and Mining, DE&NR
Joe Foss Bldg., 523 East Capitol
Pierre, SD 57501-3181

Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique
Project: Powertech (USA), Inc.
Location: Dewey/Burdock Area (Table 1)
County: Fall River and Custer Counties, SD

Dear Eric:

We have completed a review of Powertech (USA), Inc. submission to extract uranium *Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique determination*. The Archaeological Research Center makes the following determination:

From a cultural resource management perspective, the sites identified as being potentially impacted in the proposed mining area during this phase of exploration do not contain significant information that would give them Exceptional, Critical, or Unique status. There are 76 cultural resources within the permit boundary that have not been evaluated for their archaeological content (Table 2). The Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) between Powertech (USA), Inc. and the Archaeological Research Center (September 2008) establishes protection through avoidance and/or evaluation or archaeological data recovery for these sites. Providing the current MOA is followed, it is recommended that the project proceed as planned from a cultural resources perspective.

The proposed project exploration area has been surveyed for cultural resources and thirteen sites identified as potentially affected have been evaluated. The majority of these sites are light lithic scatters where the reduction of tool manufacturing took place. Other sites suggest longer duration occupations by the presence of stone filled pits and hearths. A number of elements come to play concerning preservation in this locality. Much of the parent material is highly erodable my nature consisting of shale, re-worked shale and sand deposits. As such many of the sites in this region have been completely eroded, exhumed and re-buried or are on topographical settings that receive constant erosion as observed by inverted stone filled pits and hearths are not considered significant and no further work is recommended.

However, considering the entire permit boundary, there are 190 cultural resources identified to date. A total of 110 of these have been archaeologically evaluated or are not considered to contain significant cultural or archaeological data and require no further





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Department of Tourism and State Development

Archaeological Research Center

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consideration. There are two sites (39CU2000 & 39FA2000) that by the nature of the resource are considered significant (railroad or other linear sites), two prehistoric sites (39CU271 & 39CU3592) that are recommended as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and one possible Euro-American burial (39FA1902) that should be avoided. Furthermore, 76 archaeological sites (Table 2) have not been evaluated for their archaeological/cultural significance. Measures identified in the MOA between Powertech (USA), Inc. and the Archaeological Research Center concerning the avoidance, evaluation or mitigation and disclosure 30 days in advance of the potential effect to sites not evaluated, or the inadvertent discovery of new archaeological sites stipulates protocol and procedure that allows a recommendation to proceed with the proposed project from a cultural resources perspective.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Fosha
Assistant State Archaeologist



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Table 1. Lands within the permit boundary pertaining to this recommendation.

Township/Range/County	Section	Location
T6S/R1E/Custer		
	20	E $\frac{1}{2}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$; E $\frac{1}{2}$,SE $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$,SE $\frac{1}{4}$; S $\frac{1}{2}$,NW $\frac{1}{4}$,SW $\frac{1}{4}$; SE $\frac{1}{4}$,SW $\frac{1}{4}$; S $\frac{1}{2}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$,SW $\frac{1}{4}$
	21	W $\frac{1}{2}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$,W $\frac{1}{2}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$,NW $\frac{1}{4}$,SE $\frac{1}{4}$
	27	S $\frac{1}{2}$
	28	N $\frac{1}{2}$,NW $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$,NW $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$
	29	All
	30	All
	31	E $\frac{1}{2}$
	32	All
	33	NW $\frac{1}{4}$; SW $\frac{1}{4}$; SE $\frac{1}{4}$; S $\frac{1}{2}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$
	34	All
	35	All
T7S/R1E/Fall River		
	1	All
	2	All
	3	All
	4	W $\frac{1}{2}$,W $\frac{1}{2}$
	5	All
	10	All
	11	All
	12	All
	14	NW $\frac{1}{4}$; W $\frac{1}{2}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$; NE $\frac{1}{4}$,NE $\frac{1}{4}$
	15	N $\frac{1}{2}$

Table 2. Unevaluated cultural resources within the current permit boundary.

39CU251	39CU459	39CU460	39CU530	39CU556	39CU3564
39CU3565	39CU3567	39CU3571	39CU3574	39CU3585	39CU3586
39CU3587	39CU3597	39CU3599	39CU3600	39CU3601	39CU3602
39CU3603	39CU3604	39CU3605	39CU3606	39CU3608	39CU3611
39CU3612	39CU3615	39CU3619	39CU3620	39CU3623	39CU3624
39CU3772	39CU3774	39CU3776	39CU3779	39FA96	39FA269
39FA272	39FA273	39FA557	39FA584	39FA740	39FA1859
39FA1862	39FA1863	39FA1864	39FA1869	39FA1870	39FA1874
39FA1880	39FA1881	39FA1882	39FA1887	39FA1890	39FA1892
39FA1896	39FA1898	39FA1901	39FA1902	39FA1905	39FA1907
39FA1908	39FA1912	39FA1916	39FA1920	39FA1922	39FA1923
39FA1926	39FA1927	39FA1928	39FA1932	39FA1933	39FA1935
39FA1938	39FA1940	39FA1941	39FA1944		



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