



October 23, 2008

**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

PMB 2020
JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3182
www.state.sd.us/denr

Mark Hollenbeck, Project Manager
Powertech (USA) Inc.
PO Box 812
Edgemont, SD 57735

Dear Mr. Hollenbeck:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Notice of Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands advertisement pursuant to ARSD 74:29:10:05 which you should have published in the Hot Springs Star on Tuesday, October 28, 2008 and the Custer County Chronicle on Wednesday, October 29, 2008. Please proofread the notice before it is published and let us know if any changes need to be made. To ensure that the Notice of Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands is published on the above-stated date, please make sure that this copy is submitted to the Hot Springs Star by 10:00 AM Friday October 24 and the Custer County Chronicle by 5:00 PM Friday October 24. If this Notice is not published on this date, filing of your mine permit application may be delayed. After the Notice of Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands has been published, the "Affidavit of Publication" should be mailed to our office. The Affidavit should be supplied to you at the time you are billed for the publication.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

\s/

Roberta Fivecoate
Natural Resources Project Engineer
Minerals and Mining Program
Telephone: (605) 773-4201
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E-mail: roberta.fivecoate@state.sd.us

Enclosure: Notice of Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF SPECIAL,
EXCEPTIONAL, CRITICAL, OR UNIQUE LANDS

Notice is hereby given that Powertech (USA) Inc., PO Box 812, Edgemont, South Dakota, 57735, has submitted a Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The legal description of the operation is E1/2 NE1/4, E1/2 SE1/4, SW1/4 SE1/4, S1/2 NW1/4 SE1/4, SE1/4 SW1/4, and S1/2 NE1/4 SW1/4 Section 20, W1/2, W1/2 W1/2 NE1/4, and W1/2 NW1/4 SE1/4 Section 21, S1/2 Section 27, N1/2 NW1/4, SW1/4 NW1/4, and SW1/4 Section 28, Section 29, Section 30, E1/2 Section 31, Section 32, NW1/4, SW1/4, SE1/4, and S1/2 NE1/4 Section 33, Section 34, and Section 35; T6S-R1E, Custer County and Section 1, Section 2, Section 3, W1/2 W1/2 Section 4, Section 5, Section 10, Section 11, Section 12, NW1/4, W1/2 NE1/4, and NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 14, and N1/2 Section 15; T7S-R1E, Fall River County. Powertech (USA) Inc. has submitted the Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate for purposes of determining whether the lands potentially affected by the proposed mining operation are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary list of special, exceptional, critical, or unique lands.

The proposed operation involves an in situ leach mining operation for uranium in an area located 12 to 17 miles northwest of Edgemont, South Dakota. The large scale operation will directly affect approximately 1,600 acres, although a total of 10,580 acres will be included in the permitted boundary. The in situ leach mining process involves injecting carbon dioxide and oxygen into an aquifer containing the uranium. The uranium will be oxidized, dissolved, and pumped out of the aquifer to a central processing plant where the water will be treated to remove the uranium. Reclamation will include restoration of the

aquifer to baseline conditions, well plugging which will be conducted concurrently with mining, decommissioning of the processing plant, and removal of pipelines and evaporation ponds. The land will be reclaimed to its present use of grazing and wildlife habitat.

A copy of the Request may be reviewed at the Minerals and Mining Program, Joe Foss Building, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota, at the Custer County Register of Deeds office in Custer, South Dakota, or at the Fall River Register of Deeds office in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Any citizen, organization, or agency may nominate lands described in this Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate for inclusion on the preliminary list of special, exceptional, critical, or unique lands by submitting a nominating petition to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to the requirements of ARSD 74:29:10:16 no later than December 28, 2008. Persons desiring further information may contact Eric Holm or Roberta Fivecoate, Minerals and Mining Program, at (605) 773-4201.