



**DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENT
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 EAST CAPITOL
PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA 57501-3181
www.state.sd.us/denr

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, October 1, 2008
FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kim Smith, (605) 773-3152

DENR Provides Internet Access to Powertech Permit Files

PIERRE – The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced today that it is making environmental permitting files related to Powertech (USA) Incorporated’s uranium exploration and proposed uranium in situ leach mining projects near Edgemont available to the public both electronically and in hard copy.

DENR and the Bureau of Information and Telecommunications have developed a website at www.state.sd.us/denr/DES/Mining/PowertechPage.htm. The website currently features links to Powertech’s recently submitted uranium exploration permit application and a “Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical, or Unique Lands” application, which is the first step in the state mine permitting process. The department plans to post future permit applications submitted by Powertech, correspondence files, and provide updates regarding the status of DENR reviews of the applications.

The website can be reached from DENR’s home page at www.state.sd.us/denr/denr.html by clicking on “Powertech (USA), Inc. – Environmental Permits” under the “New” heading.

For those who may not have Internet access, Powertech makes hard copies of exploration and mine permit applications available for public review at the Custer County Register of Deeds office in Custer, South Dakota, and the Fall River County Register of Deeds office in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Hard copies of the applications may also be obtained by contacting the Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol, Pierre, South Dakota 57501 or by calling DENR at (605) 773-4201.

Powertech (USA), Inc. is a uranium company that has started submitting permit applications to develop a uranium in situ leach mine in Custer and Fall River counties near Edgemont in southwestern South Dakota.