

**NOTICE OF FILING
APPLICATION FOR LARGE SCALE MINE PERMIT
POWERTECH (USA) INC.**

Powertech (USA) Inc., PO Box 812, Edgemont, South Dakota 57735, hereby gives notice that an application for a permit to mine uranium and vanadium has been filed with the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources for its proposed Dewey-Burdock Project, a uranium in situ recovery mining operation. The resident agent is CT Corporation System, 319 South Coteau Street, Pierre, South Dakota 57501.

The legal location of the proposed 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

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

General Location: Approximately 13 miles northwest of Edgemont, South Dakota.

The proposed mining operation will involve in situ recovery methods. Powertech will use injection wells to pump groundwater fortified with oxygen and carbon dioxide water into ore deposits to dissolve uranium. Production wells will be used to pump the uranium-laden fluids to the surface for recovery. The fluids from the production wells will be processed at two separate facilities at the mine site to extract and concentrate the uranium. Powertech may also recover vanadium in the future which will require additional processing equipment. After uranium has been removed from a well field, the groundwater will be restored to meet water quality standards. Wastewater generated by the operation will be treated and disposed primarily by injection in Class V injection wells permitted through the EPA Underground Injection Control Program. If there is not sufficient capacity in the Class V wells, the excess wastewater may be disposed by land application permitted by a DENR Groundwater Discharge Plan. The proposed post-mining land uses are rangeland and agricultural or horticultural crops.

The total acreage within the proposed permit boundary is about 10,580 acres, mostly on private land. About 240 acres of BLM land are included in the permit boundary. Powertech proposes to affect 2,528 to 3,792 acres depending upon whether primary deep injection or secondary land application is used for wastewater disposal. Estimated production is one million pounds of uranium oxide (U₃O₈) per year. Estimated duration of the operation is 20 years.

A copy of the application may be reviewed at the department's Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, on the department's web page at <http://denr.sd.gov/des/mm/powertechpage.aspx>, the Custer County Register of Deeds in Custer, South Dakota, or the Fall River County Register of Deeds in Hot Springs, South Dakota. Written objections to, statements in support of, or petitions to intervene and become a party to the proceedings pursuant to ARSD 74:29:01:09 must be filed with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources no later than February 19, 2013. Information about the contents of a nominating petition can be found at ARSD 74:09:01:01 (<http://legis.state.sd.us/rules/DisplayRule.aspx?Rule=74:09:01:01>). Comments may be submitted online at <http://denr.sd.gov/public/pncomment.aspx>. Written comments or petitions should be mailed to the Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182.

In accordance with the ARSD 74:29:01:15, the department will recommend approval, conditional approval, or denial of the application in April 2013. A contested case hearing before the Board of Minerals and Environment is tentatively planned for May 2013.

Persons needing further information about this permit application may contact Mike Cepak, Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182, or phone (605) 773-4201.