The audio recording for this meeting is available on the South Dakota Boards and Commissions Portal at http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=67

Minutes of the
Board of Minerals and Environment
Matthew Training Center
523 East Capitol Avenue
Pierre, South Dakota

August 20, 2026
10:00 a.m. Central Time

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Glenn Blumhardt. The roll was called, and a quorum was present.

The meeting was streaming live on SD.net, a service of South Dakota Public Broadcasting.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Blumhardt, Bob Ewing, Jessica Gruenwald, Tim Johns, Doyle Karpen, Rhett Miller, Bob Morris, Bruce Outka, and Laurie Schultz.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: See attached attendance sheets.

APPROVE AGENDA: Motion by Karpen, seconded by Schultz, to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 18, 2026, MEETING: Motion by Ewing, seconded by Morris, to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2026, Board of Minerals and Environment meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

MINING ISSUES CONSENT CALENDAR: Prior to the meeting the board received a copy of the consent calendar (see attachment).

Tom Cline, Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program, was available for questions from the board. There were no questions.

Motion by Outka, seconded by Schultz, to approve the consent calendar, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

POWERTECH (USA) INC. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF SOCIOECONOMIC CONTRACTOR FOR PROPOSED LARGE-SCALE MINE PERMIT APPLICATION: Eric Holm reported that Powertech (USA), Inc. has requested board approval of Western Water Consultants, Inc. dba WWC Engineering (WWC) as its socioeconomic contractor. Powertech (USA), Inc. is applying for a large-scale mine permit for a proposed uranium in-situ recovery mining operation.

Under the mining statutes, an applicant for a large-scale mine is required to do a socioeconomic impact study and include it in its mine permit application. The law requires the applicant to get approval from the Board of Minerals and Environment for the contractor to conduct the study.

As part of its decision-making process on a mine permit application, the board has authority to consider the socioeconomic impacts of a mining operation. The board has authority to deny a mine permit application if it finds the adverse socioeconomic impacts of the proposed mining operation outweigh the benefits of the operation.

A copy of WWC's Statement of Qualifications was included in the packet that was sent to the board prior to the meeting.

Jay Douthit with Powertech was present and Doyle Fritz and Jack Fritz with WWC were available on-line to answer questions.

The original socioeconomic study was updated in 2012-2013 by Doyle Fritz, WWC. In 2024, WWC prepared a combined Technical Report and Environmental Report, including socioeconomic analysis, for a Nuclear Regulatory Commission license renewal application for this project. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved the renewal and issued a 20-year license on June 30, 2026.

Motion by Johns, seconded by Ewing, to approve WWC Engineering as the socioeconomic contractor for Powertech (USA), Inc.'s large-scale mine permit application. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SDCL 1-25-1: The following offered public comments:

Kim Wittenburg, Marilyn Allen, Elizabeth Lone Eagle, Sareen Harding, Louise Dunlap, Jane O'Leary, Reverend Patrick Bell, Jean Rope, Jodie Beth McCain, Kerry Saner-Harvey, Amanda Pittman, Jim Lithti, Caryn Lerman, Allison Hoyer, John Stace, Kimimila Locke, Helen Red Feather, William Wagner, Denise Giago, Ben Sharp, Bruce Ellison.

EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SDCL 1-25-2(3) TO DISCUSS CLEAN NUCLEAR ENERGY CORPORATION URANIUM EXPLORATION PERMIT APPLICATION, EXNI 453 WITH BOARD COUNSEL: Motion by Karpen, seconded by Outka, to enter Executive Session in accordance with SDCL 1-25-2(3) to consult with legal counsel or reviewing communications from legal counsel about proposed or pending litigation. The motion carried unanimously.

The board entered Executive Session at 11:45 p.m.

MOTIONS BY THE BOARD: After exiting Executive Session at 12:45 p.m. a motion was made by Outka, seconded by Johns, that the board pursue a declaratory ruling in Circuit Court regarding the interpretation of SDCL 1-26-18.4. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion

carried with Ewing, Gruenwald, Johns, Karpen, Miller, Outka, Schultz, and Blumhardt voting aye. Morris abstained.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Karpen nominated Tim Johns as Chair, seconded by Miller.

Motion by Schultz, seconded by Outka, that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Tim Johns as Board Chair. The motion carried unanimously.

Gruenwald nominated Rhett Miller as Vice Chair, seconded by Karpen.

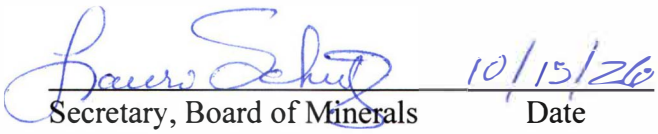
Motion by Ewing, seconded by Outka, that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Rhett Miller as Vice Chair. The motion caried unanimously.

Karpen nominated Laurie Schultz as Secretary, seconded by Gruenwald.

Motion by Miller, seconded by Ewing, that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Laurie Schultz as Secretary. The motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: The next meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2026.

ADJOURN: Motion by Karpen, seconded by Morris, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.



Secretary, Board of Minerals and Environment — Date

ATTENDANCE SHEET

BOARD OF MINERALS AND ENVIRONMENT MEETING

Matthew Training Center - Pierre

Date: 8/20/26

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	MAILING ADDRESS	REPRESENTING
Eric Holm	Pierre	DANR
Jay Doutrich	310 2nd Ave Edgemont SD. 57735	Panel Tech.
Rebecca Terk	Rapid City	Dakota Rural Action
Bob Mercer	Pierre	Keloland News
Thomas Cline JR	523 E Capitol Ave	SD DANR - M+M program
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sareen Harding	Hot Springs	self
Helen Red Feather	Wounded Knee	Self
Darlene Hawk Wing	WKnee	Slf
Beverly Larsen	WKC	Self
[illegible]	WKNE	Self
Dave Two Bulls	Red Shirt SD	PHCMA
Rudell Bear Shirt	WKSD	Intervenes
Nina Taylor	WKSD	
John Cyr	WKSD	
Jolene Tenfingers	WKSD	
Linda White Face	Pahla Sinte	
Jean Kocer	3711 Ivy Ave	Intervenor
David McVey	Pierre	Board Counsel, ATG
Denise Griago		
Taylor Gunhammer		
Elizabeth Lone Eagle		
Ben Sharp		

Consent Calendar
South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment

August 20, 2026

License Holder	License No.	Site No.	Surety Amount	Surety Company or Bank	DANR Recommendation
Transfer of Liability & Surety Release:					
Rodney G. Nelsen Vermillion, SD	05-813		$1,500	Bank of the West – Vermillion, SD	Transfer Liability & Release $1,500
		813001	SW1/4 Section 13; T94N-R54W, Yankton County		
Transfer to:					
John Landeen Irene, SD	26-1162		$3,850	First Premier Bank – Wakonda, SD	
Lonny Potts Gettysburg, SD	16-1015		$500	Great Western Bank – Gettysburg, SD	Transfer Liability & Release $500
		1015001	SE1/4 Section 29; T117N-R74W, Potter County		
Transfer to:					
Potter County Highway Dept. Gettysburg, SD	83-147		Exempt	NA	
Release of Liability & Surety Release:					
Steve Atteberry Colome, SD	12-931		$1,000	First Fidelity Bank – Colome, SD	Release Liability & $1,000
		931001	SW1/4 Section 34; T97N-R75W, Tripp County		

Consent Calendar
South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment

August 20, 2026

License Holder	License No.	Site No.	Surety Amount	Surety Company or Bank	DANR Recommendation
Release of Liability & Surety Release:					
Boyden Construction Limited Partnership Platte, SD	85-313		$8,000	First Fidelity Bank – Platte, SD	Release Liability & $8,000
		313011	NW1/4 Section 12; T100N-R67W, Charles Mix County		
Wayne Feistner Woonsocket, SD	14-979		$3,500	First National Bank - Woonsocket	Release Liability & $3,500
		979001	SE1/4 Section 26; T107N-R63W, Jerauld County		
		979002	NE1/4 Section 35; T107N-R63W, Jerauld County		
Bruce Haines Mitchell, SD	95-554		$500	CorTrust Bank – Mitchell, SD	Release Liability & $500
		554001	SE1/4 Section 8; T103N-R66W, Aurora County		
Wayne Malsam Ipswich, SD	97-606		$2,000	First National Bank – Pierre, SD Plains Commerce Bank – Aberdeen, SD	Release Liability & $2,000
		606003	NE1/4 Section 9; T122N-R73W, Edmunds County		
Sweetman Partners LLP Sioux Falls, SD	16-998		$20,000	First National Bank – Sioux Falls, SD	Release Liability & $20,000
		998001	S1/2 and NW1/4 Section 2 & SE1/4 Section 3 & NE1/4 Section 11; T101N-R49W, Minnehaha County		

Consent Calendar
South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment

August 20, 2026

License Holder	License No.	Site No.	Surety Amount	Surety Company or Bank	DANR Recommendation
Release of Liability:					
Feistner Gravel & Excavation Woonsocket, SD	03-759		$69,363.38	NA	Release Liability
		759001	SE1/4 Section 18; T108N-R64W, Jerauld County		
Mid-Plains Backhoeing Pierre, SD	94-513		$1,000	First National Bank – Pierre, SD	Release Liability
		513002	Section 25; T110N-R77W, Hughes County		
Morris Inc. Ft. Pierre, SD	83-2		$100,000	United Fire & Casualty Company Cedar Rapids, IA	Release Liability
		2055	NE1/4 Section 8; T109N-R67W, Hand County		
Oban Construction LLC Ipswich, SD	83-35		$20,000	Sun Surety Insurance Company Rapid City	Release Liability
		35008	SE1/4 Section 34; T121N-R73W, Edmunds County		
Stippich Inc. Hettinger, ND	83-214		$5,000	Dacotah Bank – Hettinger, ND	Release Liability
		214003	E1/2 NE1/4 and E1/2 SE1/4 Section 6; T22N-R12E, Perkins County		