



## Board of Minerals and Environment

523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182  
(605)773-3886

Live audio for this meeting is available at <http://www.sd.net> and the board packet is available on the Boards and Commissions Portal at <https://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=67>

### AGENDA

Board of Minerals and Environment  
Telephone Conference Call Meeting  
523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota

March 20, 2025

#### **10:00 a.m. Central Time**

Call to order and roll call

Introduction of Counsel for Board of Minerals and Environment

Approve Agenda

Approve minutes from January 16, 2025, meeting

Mining issues consent calendar – Tom Cline

Transfer of Small Scale Mine Permit 417 from Shirley and Andrew Krejci to Andrew Krejci – Eric Holm

Annual update of post-closure financial assurance for Homestake Mining Company, Mine Permits 332 and 456 and Mine Permit 445 – Eric Holm

Dakota Gold Corp. request for approval of socioeconomic contractor for a large-scale mine permit application pursuant to SDCL 45-6B-33.1 – Roberta Hudson

Legislative Update – Mike Lees

New board member oral biography – Rhett Miller

Public comment period in accordance with SDCL 1-25-1

Next meeting

Adjourn

Interested persons may participate via telephone or in-person at the DANR Large Conference Room, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD. To participate via telephone please contact DANR at (605) 773-3886 or via email at [brenda.binegar@state.sd.us](mailto:brenda.binegar@state.sd.us) no later than 4:00 p.m. Central Time on Wednesday, March 19, 2025.

Notice is given to individuals with disabilities that the meeting is being held in a physically accessible location. Individuals requiring assistive technology or other services to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 or by email at [Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us](mailto:Brian.Walsh@state.sd.us) as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting to ensure accommodations are available.

The board packet and the audio recording for this meeting are available on the SD Boards and Commissions Portal at <http://boardsandcommissions.sd.gov/Meetings.aspx?BoardID=67>.

Minutes of the  
Board of Minerals and Environment  
Telephone Conference Call Meeting  
523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota

January 16, 2025  
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.

Chairman Blumhardt welcomed Rhett Miller, who was appointed by Governor Noem to fill the vacancy left by Rex Hagg.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenn Blumhardt, Bob Ewing, Gregg Greenfield, Jessica Gruenwald, Gary Haag, Doyle Karpen, Rhett Miller, Bob Morris, and Laurie Schultz.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Lees, Roberta Hudson, Eric Holm, Bret Graves, Tom Cline, and Phil Nesbitt, DANR Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program; Kyrik Rombough and Barb Regynski, DANR Air Quality Program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 21, 2024, MEETING: Motion by Morris, seconded by Karpen, to approve the minutes from the November 21, 2024, Board of Minerals and Environment meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

MINING ISSUES CONSENT CALENDAR: A copy of the consent calendar, which is a table listing the department recommendations for transfer of liability, transfers of liability and surety releases, and releases of liability, was included in the board packet. (See attachment.)

Tom Cline was available to answer questions about the consent calendar.

Chairman Blumhardt asked if the surety amount for the transfer of liability and surety release from Darlene Nagel to Joel Sinclair is part of the new fee schedule. Mr. Cline answered yes. That amount reflects the required amount per acre for new operators.

Motion by Ewing, seconded by Gruenwald, to approve the consent calendar, as presented. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

ANNUAL UPDATE ON SOUTH DAKOTA’S VOLKSWAGEN BENEFICIARY MITIGATION PLAN: Barb Regynski, DANR Air Quality Program, provided an update on South Dakota’s Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan.

In 2016, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of California filed a lawsuit against Volkswagen for installing a system in some of the diesel vehicles that cheated the emission controls and allowed vehicles to emit nitrogen oxide (NOx) pollution to exceed levels allowed under the Clean Air Act. As part of a court settlement Volkswagen agreed to fund an environmental mitigation Trust in the amount of approximately \$3,000,000,000 to be used to offset the excess pollution emitted by those noncompliant vehicles.

To receive the funds, the states needed to develop and submit a beneficiary mitigation plan to the Trust. DANR was designated by the Governor to be the lead agency in South Dakota to administer the state’s allocation, which was \$8,125,000. The Trust allowed the plan to use ten specific categories to offset the excess nitrogen oxide emissions.

1. Class 8 local freight trucks and port drayage trucks (eligible large trucks)
2. Class 4-8 school bus, shuttle bus, or transit bus (eligible buses)
3. Freight switchers
4. Ferries/tugs
5. Ocean going vessels (OGV) shorepower
6. Class 4-7 local freight trucks (medium trucks)
7. Airport ground support equipment
8. Forklifts and port cargo handling equipment
9. Light duty zero emission vehicle supply equipment
10. Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) options

The Board of Minerals and Environment approved the Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan in August 2018. In March 2019, the Governor signed a bill giving spending authority for the Volkswagen Trust funds. In May 2021, the Board of Minerals and Environment approved revisions to the plan. Some of the categories were grouped together and instead of a set amount for each category, a percentage range was approved.

Ms. Regynski stated that at least 80 percent of the funds must be obligated by October 2027.

There are currently three rebate programs covered under the plan – a truck replacement rebate program, which is allotted 35 to 45 percent of the funds; a bus replacement rebate program, which is allotted 35 to 45 percent of the funds; and electric vehicle charging stations, which is 10 to 15 percent of the funds. There are also administrative costs which are allotted a maximum of 15 percent of the funds.

#### Trucks – Categories 1 and 6

The Volkswagen Truck Rebate Program provides rebates for replacing old diesel trucks with newer, cleaner trucks. The program is open to state and local governmental agencies.

There were two funding rounds per year open for applications in January and June. After the second round in 2024, all funds have been obligated. Remaining projects are expected to be completed by December 31, 2025.

Ms. Regynski stated that the department is not planning for another funding round in 2025.

#### Buses – Categories 2 and 10

DANR has been running the State Clean Diesel Grant Program, which provides rebates for replacing old diesel buses, with newer, cleaner buses, since 2009 so the Volkswagen funds are being used in conjunction with the other funds. Every year DANR receives DERA funds from EPA. The Volkswagen Category 10 funds can be used as match for the base EPA funds, and in doing that EPA also gives the program bonus funds, which are one half of the base funding the program received.

Rebate percentages have been 25 percent if the new bus is either a new, clean diesel bus or a gasoline bus, or 35 percent if the new bus meets the nitrogen oxide (NOx) emission requirement, such as a propane fueled bus. A 45 percent rebate is allowed for zero-emission busses, but no applications have been submitted.

Round 17 of the State Clean Diesel Grant Program opened in November 2024, and the agreements will be signed by February 2025. For this round applications were received for 29 busses for approximately \$1.1 million in rebates.

Round 18 will open in November 2025.

#### Electric Vehicle Charging Stations – Category 9

The maximum allowed by the Trust for this category is 15 percent. The rebates are for up to 80 percent per charging station and installation. There have been three rounds to date. During round one, seven sites were approved, but only one site was completed in Mitchell.

For round two, eight charging stations were selected for rebates, but only five were completed. Charging stations were installed in Vermillion, Pierre, Brookings, Murdo, and Spearfish.

For round three, five charging stations were selected; Yankton, Mobridge, Lemmon, Hot Springs, and Eagle Butte. These projects expected to be completed by October 2025.

At this time all funds for Category 9 have been obligated.

Ms. Regynski noted that one of the applicants contacted her indicating that they will likely withdraw the application. This is the same applicant that installed the Mitchell charging station, and they said from what they have learned and how much the charging station is being used, they will probably not be installing the charging station in Yankton.

Regarding usage of the charging stations that are finished, Ms. Regynski stated that in 2023 she received one report, which was for the Vermillion station, and it ranged from 43 to 76 charges per month. For the 2024 data, she received a report for the charging in Mitchell, which had between three and 19 charges per month. She also received a report from Pierre, which had zero to five charges per month.

More charging stations are slowly being added in the state. Since the update for 2023, fast chargers that received the Volkswagen rebates were installed in Pierre and Mitchell. There weren't any other Tesla stations added. Nine additional other fast charging stations were installed. Several of these were at car dealerships. Fourteen Level 2 charging stations were added since last year.

Ms. Regynski stated that she contacted the Department of Transportation (DOT) to see how that program is doing, since they are supposed to be receiving \$29 million for charging stations. DOT indicated that they intend publish the notice of available funding in the Spring of 2025.

#### Administrative Costs

Through November 2024, approximately \$275,000 has been expended, and approximately \$537,000 remains.

#### Funding Summary

Ms. Regynski stated that of the \$8,125,000 available, \$ 7,477,612 has been expended or obligated, which is 92 percent of the total funds. By the end of 2025, all of the agreements for Trust should be finished, all of the agreements for charging station should be finished, and the Round 17 busses rebates should be completed.

Staff does not intend to present any changes to the Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan in 2025.

More information on the Volkswagen Beneficiary Mitigation Plan is available at <https://danr.sd.gov/Environment/AirQuality/VolkswagenTrust/VWEVCS.aspx>.

RELEASE OF RECLAMATION SURETY FOR BOYER SAND AND ROCK, MINE PERMIT 268 DUE TO CONVERSION OF LIMESTONE MINE PERMIT TO MINE LICENSE: Eric Holm reported that Senate Bill 111, which was approved during the 2024 legislative session and became effective on July 1, 2024, placed the mining of any use of limestone under the mine license statutes (SDCL 45-6-65). As a result, current mine permits issued for limestone uses other than construction aggregate, cement, or lime production need to be converted to a licensed mining operation.

Mr. Holm noted that at the October 2024 Board of Minerals and Environment meeting, mine permits issued to Pete Lien and Sons and Simon Contactors were converted to mine licenses. Boyer Sand and Rock of SD, Inc. is the last operator in the process of converting a mine permit to a licensed operation.

Small Scale Mine Permit 268, located approximately 5.5 miles west of Wakonda, SD, is being converted to a mine license. Since Boyer Sand and Rock has a mine license, the process for the conversion of the mine permit to a mine license is similar to the publication and notification requirements of SDCL 45-6-68 and 45-6-69 in adding a site to a license. Instead of a Notice of Intent, the operator publishes a Notice of Conversion to License and Intent to Continue Operation. A copy of the notice is sent to DANR, Game, Fish, and Parks, the Archaeological Research Center, and the local conservation district. Mr. Holm stated that Boyer Sand and Rock published the notice in a newspaper local to the mine and submitted copies to the required review agencies.

All areas previously disturbed under the mine permit, including reclamation liability, will now be covered under the mine license and the \$20,000 statewide surety held under the mine license.

The department recommended the board release Certificate of Deposit No. 2897, Rivers Edge Bank, in the amount of \$2,500 for Scale Mine Permit 268.

In response to a question from Mr. Morris, Mr. Holm stated that Boyer Sand and Rock Inc has a \$20,000 statewide surety, but the surety requirement will increase on July 1, 2026, and on July 1, 2027, and again on July 1, 2029, according to the tiered bonding increase approved under the 2024 Senate Bill 111.

Motion by Karpen, seconded by Haag, to release Certificate of Deposit No. 2897, Rivers Edge Bank, in the amount of \$2,500 for Boyer Sand and Rock, Inc. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SDCL 1-25-1: There were no public comments.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is March 20, 2025.

Chairman Blumhardt stated that he is tentatively planning to hold the September 17-18, 2025, meeting in the Hills. Staff from the Minerals, Mining and Superfund Program will work on scheduling a tour for the board.

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

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Secretary, Board of Minerals  
and Environment

Date

***South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment  
Consent Calendar***

***January 16, 2025***

<b><u>License Holder</u></b>	<b><u>License No.</u></b>	<b><u>Site No.</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Company or Bank</u></b>	<b><u>DANR Recommendation</u></b>
<b><u>Transfer of Liability:</u></b>					
Stanley Hanson Winner, SD	94-510		\$2,000	First National Bank – Pierre	Transfer liability.
		<b>510002</b>	SW1/4 Section 21: T95N-R78W, Tripp County		
Transfer to:					
Tripp County Highway Department – Winner, SD	83-89		Exempt	NA	
<b><u>Transfer of Liability and Surety Release:</u></b>					
Darlene Nagel Yankton, SD	07-842		\$10,000	Commercial State Bank – Wagner	Transfer Liability and \$10,000.
		<b>842001</b>	NE1/4 Section 1; T93N-R62W, Bon Homme County		
Transfer to:					
Joel Sinclair Spencer, NE	24-1147		\$57,750	Travelers Casualty and Surety Company of America	
<b><u>Release of Liability and Surety Release:</u></b>					
Aggregate Construction Inc. Minot, ND	89-382		\$20,000	Ohio Farmers Insurance Company \$20,000.	Release Liability and
		<b>382023</b>	SW1/4 NW1/4 Section 33; T4N-R6E, Meade County		

***South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment  
Consent Calendar***

***January 16, 2025***

<b><u>License Holder</u></b>	<b><u>License No.</u></b>	<b><u>Site No.</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Company or Bank</u></b>	<b><u>DANR Recommendation</u></b>
<b><u>Release of Liability and Surety Release:</u></b>					
James L Dean Hill City, SD	88-380		\$1,000	First National Bank – Pierre	Release Liability and \$1,000.
		<b>380004</b>		N1/2 NE1/4 Section 16; T2S-R6E, Pennington County	
		<b>380005</b>		NW1/4 Section 24; T2S-R4E, Pennington County	
Jared Gross Aberdeen, SD	23-1127		\$500	First Interstate Bank – Aberdeen	Release Liability and \$500.
		<b>1127001</b>		SE1/4 Section 33; T124N-R64W, Brown County	
Gefroh Sand and Gravel Amherst, SD	02-732		\$1,000	First National Bank – Pierre	Release Liability and \$1,000.
		<b>732001</b>		S1/2 Section 7; T127N-R56W, Marshall County	
Mark Heumiller Salem, SD	21-1099		\$1,000	First Dakota National Bank – Salem	Release Liability and \$1,000.
		<b>1099001</b>		N1/2 S1/2 Section 34; T104N-R54W, McCook County	



***South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment  
Consent Calendar***

***January 16, 2025***

<b><u>License Holder</u></b>	<b><u>License No.</u></b>	<b><u>Site No.</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Company or Bank</u></b>	<b><u>DANR Recommendation</u></b>
<b><u>Release of Liability:</u></b>					
Day County Highway Dept. Webster, SD	83-34		Exempt	NA	Release Liability.
		<b>34022</b>	SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 26; T120N-R59W, Day County		
Midstates Crushing and Recycle LLC Beresford, SD	10-906		\$20,000	Bankwest - Mitchell	Release Liability.
		<b>906001</b>	NW1/4, SW1/4, & SE1/4 Section 2; T121N-R59W Day County		
Morrs Inc Ft. Pierre, SD	83-2		\$20,000	United Fire and Casualty Company	Release Liability.
		<b>2022</b>	NW1/4, SW1/4, & SE1/4 Section 18; T114N-R74W Sully County		
Perkins County Highway Dept. Bison, SD	83-91		Exempt	NA	Release Liability.
		<b>91026</b>	SE1/4 Section 3; T17N-R14E, Perkins County		
		<b>91027</b>	SW1/4 Section 9; T17N-R10E, Perkins County		

*South Dakota Board of Minerals and Environment*

*January 16, 2025*

<u>Permit Holder</u>	<u>Permit No.</u>	<u>Surety Amount</u>	<u>Surety Company or Bank</u>	<u>DANR Recommendation</u>
<b><u>Release of Reclamation Surety for Boyer Sand and Rock, Inc.:</u></b>				
Boyer Sand and Rock, Inc. Hawarden, IA	268	\$2,500	Rivers Edge Bank, Marion, SD	Release Certificate of Deposit No. 2897, Rivers Edge Bank, in the amount of \$2,500 due to conversion to mine license.
		NE1/4 Section 35; T95N-R54W, Yankton County		

***Consent Calendar***  
***South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment***

***March 20, 2025***

<b><u>License Holder</u></b>	<b><u>License No.</u></b>	<b><u>Site No.</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Amount</u></b>	<b><u>Surety Company or Bank</u></b>	<b><u>DANR Recommendation</u></b>
<b><u>Transfer of Liability:</u></b>					
Pete Lien & Sons, Inc. Rapid City, SD	83-100		\$20,000	Western Surety Company	Transfer Liability.
		<b>100013</b>	S1/2 & NE1/4 Section 10; T113N-R75W, Sully County		
Transfer to:					
A-G-E Corporation Ft. Pierre, SD	24-1146		\$300,000	Merchants Bonding Company	
Schenkel Demolition, LLC Tyndall, SD	21-1097		\$17,900	Community Bank – Avon, SD	Transfer Liability.
		<b>1097002</b>	Section 13; T93N-R62W, Charles Mix County		
Transfer to:					
Roger Baumfalk	25-1149		\$9,625	Security Bank Midwest – Tyndall, SD	
<b><u>Release of Liability &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
AP & Sons Construction Inc. Summit, SD	14-972		\$1,500	Peoples State Bank – Summit	Release Liability & \$1,500.
		<b>972001</b>	SW1/4 Section 28; T122N-R51W, Roberts County		
Larry Starr Alpena, SD	11-925		\$2,000	First National Bank – Woonsocket	Release Liability & \$2,000.
		<b>925001</b>	NE1/4 Section 34; T108N-R63W, Jerauld County		

***Consent Calendar***  
***South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment***

***March 20, 2025***

<u>License Holder</u>	<u>License No.</u>	<u>Site No.</u>	<u>Surety Amount</u>	<u>Surety Company or Bank</u>	<u>DANR Recommendation</u>
<b><u>Release of Liability:</u></b>					
Western Construction Inc. Rapid City, SD	09-880		\$20,000	Western Surety Company	Release Liability.
		<b>880022</b>	SE1/4 NE1/4 Section 36; T41N-R40W, Jackson County		
McPherson County Highway Department - Leola, SD	83-41		Exempt	Exempt	Release Liability.
		<b>41036</b>	SE1/4 NW1/4 Section 10; T127N-R68W, McPherson County		

## *South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment*

*March 20, 2025*

<u>Permit Holder</u>	<u>Permit No.</u>	<u>Surety Amount</u>	<u>Surety Company or Bank</u>	<u>DANR Recommendation</u>
<b><u>Transfer of Small Scale Mine Permit 417:</u></b>				
Shirley & Andrew Krejci Yutan, NE	417	\$2,500	First National Bank, Rapid City, SD	Transfer Permit 417 and liability from Shirley & Andrew Krejci to Andrew Krejci. Accept CD 242778, First National Bank, Rapid City, with name change from Shirley & Andrew Krejci to Andrew Krejci in the amount of \$2,500.
Transfer to:	NE1/4 Section 34; T5N-R2E, Lawrence County			
Andrew Krejci Yutan, NE				
<b><u>Annual Update of Post Closure Financial Assurance:</u></b>				
Homestake Mining Company Lead, SD	332 & 456	\$84,000,056	Federal Insurance Company	Accept rider to Bond No. 8233-63-10, Federal Insurance Company, increasing the Post Closure Financial Assurance amount to \$84,000,056.
Homestake Mining Company Lead, SD	445	\$41,773,222	Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland  Zurich American Insurance Company	Accept rider to Bond No. 09177703, Fidelity & Deposit Company of Maryland and Zurich American Insurance Company, increasing the Post Closure Financial Assurance amount to \$41,773,222.



**DAKOTA GOLD**

20 February 2025

Roberta Hudson  
Engineering Manager I  
South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Minerals and Mining Program  
Joe Foss Building  
523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota, 57501

**RE: Dakota Gold Corp. Mine Permit Application – Preapproval of Socioeconomic Contractor**

Dear Mrs. Hudson:

Dakota Gold Corp. (DGC) intends to prepare and submit a new large-scale mine permit to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources in the future.

Per SDCL 45-6B-33.1, before making a determination, the applicant shall submit a socioeconomic impact study by a contractor approved by the Board of Minerals and Environment. DGC is requesting that **Dakota Institute** be approved as the socioeconomic contractor for this proposed permitting project. A preliminary scope of work that meets state and Lawrence County regulations is attached. In addition, Jared McEntaffer's CV is also attached for the Board of Minerals and Environment review.

Thank you for your time as it pertains to this matter. Should you have any question or comments, please contact me at (605) 717-2590 or [tcomer@dakotagoldcorp.com](mailto:tcomer@dakotagoldcorp.com)

Regards,

Timm Comer  
Environmental Director

Attachment: Dakota Gold Socioeconomic Impact Study  
McEntaffer-CV

**Richmond Hill Mine Project  
Socioeconomic Impact Study  
Draft Proposal**

For

**Dakota Gold Corp.**

**RECEIVED**

Feb 20, 2025

MINERALS, MINING, &  
SUPERFUND PROGRAM



**DAKOTA GOLD**

January 28, 2025





## Purpose & Motivation

Dakota Gold Corp. (Dakota Gold) is currently developing its Richmond Hill Gold Project, located in Lawrence County, South Dakota. The Richmond Hill project is a key part of Dakota Gold's broader exploration efforts in the historic Homestake District. Dakota Gold has undertaken extensive exploration efforts to confirm historic resource estimates and identifying new mineral deposits. With more than 123,500 feet of drilling completed, early results suggest strong potential for further resource expansion. Looking forward, the company's plans include completing an official resource estimate, expanding drilling operations, and exploring under-examined areas within the property.

The Richmond Hill Gold Project is situated within the Black Hills of South Dakota, which have long been an important center of economic activity. Mining remains a key industry in the region, with gold extraction playing a major role in the area's economic history. The Homestake Mine in Lead, one of the most famous gold mines in U.S. history, operated for over 125 years and contributed to the area's development before its closure in 2002.

While mining is no longer the dominant employer it once was, ongoing exploration projects such as Richmond Hill indicate that the industry remains a crucial part of the region's economic landscape. The project represents an opportunity for renewed investment and job creation, supporting both local employment and the broader economic health of the Black Hills. By advancing the Richmond Hill Gold Project, Dakota Gold aims to build on the region's rich mining history while positioning the Homestake District for future economic growth. The project's success could help sustain the mining industry in Lawrence County, complementing tourism and other sectors as key economic drivers of the local economy.

## Scope of Work

Dakota Gold has requested a socioeconomic impact study to support its permit application with Lawrence County. The socioeconomic impact study will evaluate the potential impacts of the proposed mining operation across several key dimensions including, the population base, employment, area income, the tax base, housing availability and affordability, community services, recreational opportunities, or other beneficial uses of land within and adjacent to the permit area. The socioeconomic study will also include estimates for the potential tax and economic impact estimates of Dakota Gold's new mining operation.

Specifically, the socioeconomic impact study will analyze and report on

- Lawrence County's current economic base, social conditions, and infrastructure,
- Estimated economic impacts associated with the project. This section will derive a realistic approximation of economic activity that would be generated in connection with the mine development based on the scope of the operation. This activity will include direct company labor and material requirements as well as input requirements by subcontractors.





Dakota Institute will conduct this analysis using REMI, the most powerful economic impact modeling software available. The REMI model supports detailed analysis of complex projects that take several years to reach completion and whose impacts will not be fully felt for many years. This analysis will provide local policy makers with a better understanding of the projects true long-term impacts when making permitting decisions.

- Housing needs and availability. Dakota Institute will provide an analysis of housing needs for any new employees and their households that may relocate to the area. We will assess whether the current housing market will support this additional demand based on vacancy rates and real estate listings.
- Potential social impacts tied to new economic activity and population growth. Dakota Institute will speak with key service providers including public safety administrators, public works directors, and other nonprofit service providers to gain understanding into how Dakota Gold's operations may impact area communities and service providers. Once the likely residential location of workers is established, Dakota Institute will also speak with appropriate school administrators to ascertain impacts on school systems.
- Adjacent Land Use Issues. Dakota Institute will work with RESPEC and the Lawrence County Planning and Zoning office to provide an inventory of adjacent land uses. Dakota Institute will then report how Dakota Gold's mining operations could impact critical uses, such as organized or commercial recreation activity, housing, and other commercial activities. The analysis will focus on potential conflicts that adjacent mining could bear upon them. In addition, the impacts of converting the postmining land use at Richmond Hill from wildlife grazing to development will be reviewed.

## **Deliverables**

The final deliverable will be a detailed report summarizing current regional conditions and future potential impacts. The written report will also contain summaries of stakeholder interviews conducted in support of the report's investigations. Dakota Institute would also make its staff available to present its findings at permit hearings or other stakeholder presentations.

## **Project Timelines**

The timeline for the project would be agreed upon at a later date, but Dakota Institute understands Dakota Golds intent is to begin work in 2026 and complete its analysis by the end of 2026.

## **Financial Investment**

Dakota Institute estimates the cost of the requested report would be between \$35,000 and \$50,000 depending on the final project scope.



## About the Dakota Institute

The Dakota Institute is a nonprofit economic research and analysis organization. Our mission is to support the long-term economic growth and development of South Dakota and the Northern Plains region. We fulfill our mission by supporting decision-makers in all fields with the best available data and analysis so they can make strategic decisions and investments that drive growth.

Driving growth isn't easy, but the Dakota Institute has an outsized impact because of our unique business model developed with a social entrepreneurship mindset. As a nonprofit, our goal is to help all decision-makers, and we accomplish this by sharing our public benefit research for free. We never charge for access to the Dakota Outlook or our other economic analysis articles written by our staff or fellows. Second, we fund our operations and public benefit work by providing fee-for-service consulting to clients who need our expertise to help their organizations, companies, or communities thrive and grow.

## Study Team

Jared McEntaffer, PhD — CEO & Chief Economist

Dr. Jared McEntaffer is the CEO of the Dakota Institute. Dr. McEntaffer is a South Dakota native with years of experience in analyzing and communicating about the South Dakota economy. Dr. McEntaffer earned his bachelor's degree at South Dakota State University and his PhD at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His research fields include economic impact modeling, economic forecasting, and regional labor market assessments.



RECEIVED

Feb 20, 2025

MINERALS, MINING, &  
SUPERFUND PROGRAM

## M. Jared McEntaffer

Dakota Institute  
100 S Spring Ave, Suite 205  
Sioux Falls SD 57104  
Phone: (702) 763-2590  
Email: jared@dakotainstitute.org

### Education

- Ph.D. 2015 Economics, University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Lincoln, NE.  
M.A. 2012 Economics, University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Lincoln, NE.  
B.A. 2007 Economics & German, South Dakota State University. Brookings, SD.

### Work Experience

- 2022– CEO: Dakota Institute  
2020–2022 **President & CEO:** Benchmark Data Labs (*formerly the Black Hills Knowledge Network*)  
2017–2019 **Project Director & Regional Economist:** The Black Hills Knowledge Network  
2015–2017 **Assistant Teaching Professor:** The Pennsylvania State University (PSU)  
2010–2015 **Graduate Instructor:** The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL)

### Research

#### Research Reports

- “Economic Impacts of CO<sub>2</sub> Pipelines in South Dakota” 2023. Dakota Institute  
“Economic Impacts of Community Health Centers in North and South Dakota” 2022. Dakota Institute  
“McArthur Safety and Justice Challenge Decision Point Analysis for Pennington County” (2022). Benchmark Data Labs  
“Student Success Center ROI Analysis” 2021. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Direct Support Professional Workforce Analysis” 2020. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Affordable Multifamily Housing in Rapid City” 2020. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Economic Impact of Community Health Centers in Minnesota” 2020. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Economic Impacts of Community Health Centers in North and South Dakota” 2019. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Regional Market Trends” 2019. Benchmark Data Labs  
“2019 Rapid City Economic Scorecard” 2019. Benchmark Data Labs  
“Economic Impact of South Dakota’s Municipal Governments’ 2019. Benchmark Data Labs  
“United Way of the Black Hills 2019 Community Needs Assessment” 2019. Black Hills Knowledge Network

- “Western Dakota Tech Economic Contribution Study” 2019. Black Hills Knowledge Network
- “Western Dakota Tech Economic Contribution Study: Technical Report” 2019. Black Hills Knowledge Network
- “Connecting South Dakota’s Future. A Report on the Deployment & Impact of Rural Broadband.” 2018. South Dakota Dashboard.
- “Rapid City Housing Affordability Study” 2018. Black Hills Knowledge Network
- “Rapid City Occupational Wage and Housing Affordability Assessment” 2017. Black Hills Knowledge Network
- “Labor Supply Issues Influencing Green Industry Development” with Eric Thompson, Lindsey Eastwood, Hanna Hartman. UNL Bureau of Business Research (BBR).
- “Green Jobs for Displaced Manufacturing, Construction and Construction-Related Service Workers” with Scott Fuess, Eric Thompson, Hanna Hartman. UNL BBR.

## Data Dashboards

- North Dakota FirstLink Data Dashboard. 2022. Dakota Institute
- South Dakota 211 Helpline Data Dashboard. 2020. Benchmark Data Labs
- Benchmark Data Labs Socioeconomic Indicators. 2020. Benchmark Data Labs

## Invited Seminars and Presentations

- 2023    Regional and State Housing Trends  
*Mountain Plains Housing 2023 Summit, (Sioux Fall SD)*
- South Dakota Economic Outlook  
*Governor’s Office of Economic Development Annual Conference, (Sioux Fall SD)*
- 2022    Data Driven Development  
*Black Hills State University - Fuel the Growth - Economic Development Conference, (Rapid City SD)*
- 2021    Piecing Together South Dakota  
*Avera Insurance Group, (Sioux Falls SD)*
- Understanding and Using Data  
*2021 Public Library Institute, (Rapid City SD)*
- 2020    The Role of Multifamily Housing in Achieving Affordability  
*Rapid City Strategic Housing Committee, (Rapid City SD)*
- Current Economic Trends  
*Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors, (Pierre SD)*
- Residential Housing Trends  
*Electro-Technology Expo, (Rapid City SD)*

- 2019 Economic Impact of Municipalities in South Dakota  
*South Dakota Municipal League Annual Conference, (Aberdeen SD)*
- Housing Demand in Lead & Deadwood, Trends and Insights  
*Annual Meeting of the Deadwood\Lead EDC, (Deadwood SD)*
- Housing Demand in South Dakota, Trends and Insights  
*South Dakota Housing Development Authority Annual Conference, (Pierre SD)*
- Regional Economic Outlook  
*Annual Shareholder Meeting. Security First Bank, (Rapid City SD)*
- Economic Contribution of Western Dakota Tech  
*Annual Meeting of South Dakota Board of Technical Education, (Rapid City SD).*
- 2018 Deployment of Rural Broadband in South Dakota  
*Annual Meeting of South Dakota Telecommunications Association, (Brookings SD).*
- Wage Impacts of Technical Education  
*Western Dakota Tech (Rapid City SD).*
- 2014 Worker Training Programs as Active Labor Market Policy.  
*UNL Department of Economics Lecture Series, (Lincoln NE).*
- Introduction to STATA.  
*UNL Economics Graduate Student Lecture Series, (Lincoln NE).*
- 2013 Introduction to L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X  
*UNL Economics Graduate Student Lecture Series, (Lincoln NE).*
- 2011 Discussant. *England-Clark Conference. (Lincoln NE).*

## Conference Presentations

- 2018 "Findings and lessons from an evaluation of three indicator projects"  
*2018 CIC Impact Summit. Community Indicators Consortium, (Minneapolis MN).*
- 2017 "Measuring the Economy"  
*South Dakota Demography Conference, (Pierre SD).*
- 2016 "The Ineffectiveness of Job Training during periods of High Unemployment"  
*Western Economic Association International, (Portland OR).*
- 2014 "Green Jobs for Displaced Workers?"  
*Missouri Valley Economic Association, (St. Louis MO).*
- 2012 "Industry Switching by Displaced Workers."  
*North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International, (Ottawa Canada).*
- "Industry Switching by Displaced Workers."  
*Association of University Business and Economic Research, (Honolulu HI).*

- 2011 "Green Jobs for Displaced Manufacturing, Construction and Construction-Related Service Workers"  
*Association of University Business and Economic Research*, (Indianapolis IL).  
*Mid-Continent Regional Science Association*, (Detroit MI).

## Teaching Experience

- 2015-2017 Lecturer, The Pennsylvania State University  
102 Introductory Microeconomics (fall 2015, spring 2016, fall 2016)  
104 Introductory Macroeconomics (fall 2015)  
104 Introductory Macroeconomics–Online (fall 2015, spring 2015, fall 2016)
- 2010-2014 Graduate Student Instructor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
312 Intermediate Microeconomics (summer 2013, fall 2013, spring 2014, summer 2014)  
815 Analytic Methods for Economics (fall 2012, fall 2013)  
215 Business Statistics (fall 2011, spring 2012)  
211 Principles of Macroeconomics (fall 2010, spring 2011, summer 2012)

## Honors and Awards

- 2014 McConnell Dissertation Fellowship, UNL  
McConnell Graduate Student Outstanding Research Prize, UNL
- 2013 Department of Economics Excellence in Teaching Award, UNL
- 2012 Bingham Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching  
Department of Economics Excellence in Teaching Award, UNL
- 2011 Bingham Fellowship for Excellence in Teaching  
Department of Economics Excellence in Teaching Award, UNL

## Service

- 2021– South Dakota Nonprofit Network, Board of Directors
- 2018–21 Black Hills Area Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors
- 2015–16 Coordinator: World Campus Transcription and Accessibility Committee, PSU  
Undergraduate Coursepack Customization Coordinator, PSU
- 2016 Mentor, summer graduate student instructors, Department of Economics, PSU
- 2015 Supervisor: Great Debate, PSU Undergraduate Economics Association.
- 2014 Seminar Coordinator for Economics Graduate Student Lecture Series, UNL  
Vice President of Economics Graduate Student Association, UNL
- 2013 Vice President of Economics Graduate Student Association, UNL

- 2012 Vice-Chair of Information, UNL Graduate Student Association
- 2010 Economics Department Representative, UNL Graduate Student Association

## **Statistical and Software Packages**

R, Tableau, Microsoft Office, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X, Stata

Last updated: May 25, 2023