



**Board of Minerals  
and Environment**

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

**AGENDA**  
**Board of Minerals and Environment**  
**Mueller Civic Center, 801 S 6<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Hot Springs, SD**

**May 18, 2026- 9:00 a.m. Mountain Time**

Call to order and roll call

Approve the agenda

Approve the April 16, 2026, meeting minutes

Mining issues consent calendar – Tom Cline

Acceptance of financial assurance increase for Wharf Resources (USA), Inc., Large Scale Mine Permits 356, 434, 435, 464, 476, and 490 – Eric Holm

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

Contested Case Hearing in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application, EXNI 453

**May 19, 2026** - Continuation of contested case hearing in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application; EXNI 453

**May 20, 2026** - Continuation of contested case hearing in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application; EXNI 453

**May 21, 2026** - Continuation of contested case hearing in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application; EXNI 453

**May 22, 2026** - Conclusion of contested case hearing in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application; EXNI 453

Upcoming meetings

Adjourn

All documents filed in the matter of Clean Nuclear Energy Corporation Uranium Exploration Permit Application, EXNI 453 are available on the DANR Contested Case website at:

<https://danr.sd.gov/public/ccdocs.aspx?CCID=CCID123>

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 in order to participate in the meeting or materials in an alternate format should contact Brian Walsh, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, by calling (605) 773-5559 as soon as possible but no later than two business days prior to the meeting to ensure that accommodations are available.

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  
Teams/Conference Call Meeting  
DANR Large Conference Room  
523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota

April 16, 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, Gary Haag, Rhett Miller, Bob Morris, and Laurie Schultz.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregg Greenfield and Doyle Karpen.

OTHERS PARTICIPATING: Roberta Hudson and Michael Evans, DANR Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program; and David McVey, Assistant Attorney General

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM March 18, 2026, MEETING: Motion by Miller, seconded by Ewing, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026, Board of Minerals and Environment meeting. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Michael Evans with the Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program was available for questions from the board. There were no questions.

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

TRANSFER OF EXPLORATION NOTICE OF INTENT (EXNI) 437 FROM MARK HUGHES TO HARVEY BLAND: Roberta Hudson reported that Harvey Bland requested transfer of EXNI 437 from Mark Hughes. EXNI 437 is generally located approximately eight miles west of Custer, SD.

Board of Minerals and Environment  
April 16, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Under SDCL 45-6C-53 any EXNI can be transferred from one operator to another with the successor operator assuming all reclamation liability.

DANR received the transfer application and fee on February 23, 2026. Mr. Bland supplied his replacement reclamation bond on March 16, 2026. At that time, staff determined the application to be complete.

Mr. Bland was required to publish a notice of transfer in a local paper, which he did on April 1, 2026, in the Custer County Chronicle. DANR received the Affidavit of Publication on April 7, 2026.

Under SDCL 45-6C-53, the board cannot deny an EXNI transfer unless the operation is not or cannot be brought into compliance with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, or the successor operator is in violation of state statutes, rules, notice restrictions, mining permit conditions, or requirements with respect to any exploration or mining operation in the state.

Ms. Hudson stated that the current EXNI and Mr. Bland are in compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations.

Staff recommended the board approve the transfer of EXNI 437 from Mark Hughes to Harvey Bland, release Surety Bond No. 810009342, Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company in the amount of \$4,469, and accept replacement CD No. 661016758, First Interstate Bank in the amount of \$4,469.

Motion by Morris, seconded by Ewing, to transfer EXNI 437 from Mark Hughes to Harvey Bland, release Surety Bond No. 810009342, Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company in the amount of \$4,469, and accept replacement CD No. 661016758, First Interstate Bank in the amount of \$4,469. 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.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS: The next meeting is scheduled for May 18-22, 2026, at the Mueller Civic Center, Hot Springs, SD.

ADJOURN: Motion by Miller, seconded by Gruenwald, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

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Secretary, Board of Minerals                      Date  
and Environment

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

*April 16, 2026*

<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>Transfer of Liability &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
Kadie Lund, Parker, SD	02-753		\$2,500	First Premier Bank – Pierre, SD	Transfer Liability & Release \$2,500
		<b>753001</b>	NW1/4 NW1/4 Section 31; T99N-R52W, Turner County		
Transfer to:					
Precision Dirtworks LLC Sioux Falls, SD	24-1143		\$10,500	Central Bank – Sioux Falls, SD	
<b><u>Release of Liability &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
Roger D. Chase Huron, SD	06-832		\$3,000	Dakotaland Federal Credit Union Huron, SD	Release Liability & \$3,000
		<b>832001</b>	NE1/4 Section 15; T111N-R62W, Beadle County		
<b><u>Release of Liability:</u></b>					
Croell, Inc Sundance, WY	96-604		\$20,000	North American Specialty Insurance Co. – Manchester, NH	Release Liability
		<b>604013</b>	SW1/4 NE1/4, SE1/4 NE1/4, NE1/4 SW1/4, NW1/4 SE1/4, NE1/4 SE1/4 Section 15; T6S-R6E, Custer County		

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

*April 16, 2026*

<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>Release of Liability:</b>					
Corson County Highway Dept. McIntosh, SD	83-239		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>239004</b>	W1/2 Section 17; T18N-R25E, Corson County		
		<b>239005</b>	W1/2 Section 30; T22N-R20E, Corson County		
		<b>239012</b>	N1/2 Section 35; T21N-R24E, Corson County		
		<b>239025</b>	NE1/4 Section 26; T23N-R18E, Corson County		
		<b>239036</b>	NE1/4 Section 26; T23N-R19E, Corson County		
		<b>239038</b>	NE1/4 Section 4; T18N-R25E, Corson County		
Gregory County Highway Dept. Burke, SD	83-171		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>171007</b>	NE1/4 Section 31; T96N-R71W, Gregory County		
Haakon County Highway Dept. Philip, SD	83-40		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>40021</b>	SW1/4 Section 27 & NE1/4 Section 28; T8N-R23E, Haakon County		
Jackson County Highway Dept. Kadoka, SD	83-79		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>79006</b>	SE1/4 SW1/4 Section 19; T1S-R22E, Jackson County		

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

*April 16, 2026*

<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>Release of Liability:</b>					
Wipf Excavating, LLC Huron, SD	23-1120		\$20,000	Accelerant National Insurance Co. Sandy Springs, GA	Release Liability
		<b>1120002</b>	N1/2 Section 4; T111N-R62W, Beadle County		

## *South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment*

*April 16, 2026*

<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 Exploration Notice of Intent EXNI-437:</u></b>				
Mark Hughes Custer, SD	437	\$4,469	Atlantic Specialty Insurance Company, New York, NY	Transfer EXNI-437 and liability from Mark Hughes to Harvey Bland. Accept CD No. 6601016758, First Interstate Bank, Custer in the amount of \$4,469. Release Surety Bond No. 810009342, Atlantic Specialty Insurance, New York NY, in the amount of \$4,469.
NW1/4 Section 3; T4S-R3E, Custer County				
Transfer to: Harvey Bland Custer, SD		\$4,469	First Interstate Bank, Custer, SD	

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

***May 18, 2026***

<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>					
Ralph Marquardt Yankton, SD	99-678		\$20,000	CorTrust Bank – Yankton Home Federal Bank – Yankton First National Bank – Yankton	Transfer liability
		<b>678003</b>	W1/2 NE1/4 Section 26; T99N-R53W, Turner County		
Transfer to:					
Prairie States Trucking Inc. Sioux Falls, SD	21-1103		\$20,000	Hudson Insurance Company – New York, NY	
<b><u>Transfer of Liability &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
Mark Oetken Watertown, SD	18-1036		\$9,000	Dacotah Bank - Sisseton	Transfer Liability & \$9,000
		<b>1036001</b>	NE1/4 Section 29; T127N-R52W, Roberts County		
Transfer to:					
CT Sibson Gravel & Crushing, Inc. Beardsley, MN	19-1054		\$20,000	Frandsen Bank & Trust – Clinton, MN	
<b><u>Release of Liability &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
Bailey Associates Inc. Rapid City, SD	95-570		\$20,000	American States Insurance Co. – Indianapolis, IN	Release Liability & \$20,000
		<b>570001</b>	SW1/4 SW1/4 Section 26; SE1/4 SE1/4 Section 27, & NE1/4 NE1/4 & SE1/4 NE1/4 Section 34; T2N-R7E Pennington County		



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

***May 18, 2026***

<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 &amp; Surety Release:</u></b>					
William Scott Phillips New Underwood, SD	15-996		\$1,000	First Interstate Bank – New Underwood	Release Liability & \$1,000
		<b>996001</b>	E1/2 Section 31 and Section 32; T5N-R11E, Meade County		
<b><u>Release of Liability:</u></b>					
Aurora County Highway Dept. Plankinton, SD	83-87		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>87024</b>	Section 8; T105N-R63W, Aurora County		
Corson County Highway Dept. McIntosh, SD	83-239		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>239010</b>	NW1/4 Section 30; T21N-R28E, Corson County		
		<b>239014</b>	SW1/4 Section 8; T20N-R19E, Corson County		
		<b>239031</b>	NW1/4 Section 29; T23N-R19E, Corson County		
		<b>239033</b>	NW1/4 Section 28; T22N-R25E, Corson County		
		<b>239035</b>	S1/2 Section 36; T20N-R27E, Corson County		
		<b>239042</b>	W1/2 Section 19; T22N-R27E, Corson County		
Faulk County Highway Dept. Faulkton, SD	83-103		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>103010</b>	NW1/4 Section 5; T117N-R66W, Faulk County		

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

***May 18, 2026***

<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>					
Haakon County Highway Dept. Philip, SD	83-40		Exempt	NA	
		<b>40019</b>	SE1/4 Section 12; T1N-R21E, Haakon County		
Harding County Highway Dept. Buffalo, SD	83-66		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>66001</b>	NW1/4 Section 35; T21N-R9E, Harding County		
		<b>66013</b>	NE1/4 Section 21; T16N-R2E, Harding County		
		<b>66033</b>	NE1/4 Section 26; and SW1/4 NW1/4, NW1/4 SW1/4 Section 25; T22N-R7E, Harding County		
		<b>66038</b>	SW1/4 Section 27; T22N-R7E, Harding County		
Sanborn County Highway Dept. Woonsocket, SD	83-225		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>225007</b>	N1/2 Section 23; T108N-R61W, Sanborn County		
Walworth County Highway Dept. Selby, SD	83-7		Exempt	NA	Release Liability
		<b>7014</b>	N1/2 SW1/4 Section 10; T123N-R74W, Walworth County		
Western Construction Inc. Rapid City, SD	09-880		\$20,000	Western Surety Company – Chicago, IL	Release Liability
		<b>880026</b>	W1/2 NW1/4, W1/2 SW1/4 Section 24 and E1/2 SE1/4 Section 23; T8N-R6E, Butte County		

# South Dakota Board of Minerals & Environment

May 18, 2026

<u>Permit Holder</u>	<u>Permit No.</u>	<u>Surety Amount</u>	<u>Surety Company or Bank</u>	<u>DANR Recommendation</u>
<b><u>Acceptance of Financial Assurance for Wharf Resources (USA), Inc.:</u></b>				
Wharf Resources (USA), Inc. Lead, SD	356, 434, 435, 464, 476, & 490	\$840,000	Siriuspoint America Insurance Company	Accept rider to Bond No. SPA150347_002, Siriuspoint America Insurance Company, increasing the Financial Assurance amount to \$863,900.