



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

April 30, 2024

Michael Barr
Senior Project Coordinator
Bentonite Performance Minerals LLC
554 US Highway 212
Belle Fourche, SD 57717

Dear Mr. Barr:

In accordance with ARSD 74:29:01:07(2), the department has reviewed the supplemental information submitted on April 11 and 25, 2024 to complete Bentonite Performance Minerals' large scale permit application. Based on this review, the department considers the application to be procedurally complete and filed as of April 30, 2024.

Please find enclosed a copy of the Notice of Filing that you should have published in the **Black Hills Pioneer** for **two consecutive weeks on May 8 and 15, 2024**. Please proofread the Notice before it is published and let us know if any changes need to be made. To ensure that the Notice is published on the above dates, please make sure that it is emailed to Black Hills Pioneer (legals@bhpioneer.com) by 3:00 pm Friday, May 3, 2024. If the Notice cannot be published on these dates, please let me know as soon as possible so that the necessary corrections to it can be made. After the Notice of Filing has been published on the two dates, please forward the "Affidavit of Publication" to our office. The newspaper should supply you with an "Affidavit" at the time you are billed for the publication.

Please note Bentonite Performance Minerals is required to mail (by certified mail return receipt) a copy of the first week's advertisement to all owners and lessees of the surface of the land to be affected by your mining operation (Dave Garman and the Butte County Highway Department). Copies of the certified mail return receipts are required to be submitted to our office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

\s/

Eric Holm
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Minerals and Mining Program
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Enclosure