



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**NOTIFICATION OF LARGE SCALE MINE PERMIT APPLICATION
BENTONITE PERFORMANCE MINERALS, LLC**

Pursuant to ARSD 74:29:01:05, the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources is notifying you that Bentonite Performance Minerals, LLC, 554 US Highway 212, Belle Fourche, South Dakota 57717, has submitted a large-scale mine permit application for its proposed Security bentonite mine. The legal location is:

Portions of Sections 31 & 32; T9N-R2E, Butte County

General Location: Approximately 2 miles northwest of Belle Fourche, South Dakota

Bentonite Performance Minerals, LLC will disturb approximately 83 acres during the life of the Security Mine. Several small pits 2 to 12 acres in size will be mined using cut and fill mining methods. Topsoil, subsoil, and overburden will be stripped with scrapers and stockpiled or applied directly onto previously backfilled pits. Bentonite will be removed with scrapers and stored in a bentonite pit or designated stockpile area until it is loaded with front end loaders and trucks to Bentonite Performance Minerals' processing plant in Colony, Wyoming. Reclamation will be conducted concurrently with the mining operation. The land will be reclaimed to rangeland.

The application is currently being reviewed for completeness. The department will notify Bentonite Performance Minerals, LLC by November 16, 2022, as to whether the application is complete.

The application is available for review at the Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, or on the Minerals and Mining web page at <https://danr.sd.gov/Environment/MineralsMining/Exploration/NewMinePermits.aspx>. The application is also available for public review at the Butte County Register of Deeds office in Belle Fourche, South Dakota.

October 24, 2022