



**DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE  
and NATURAL RESOURCES**

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

August 21, 2023

Mike Gollhofer  
Technical Director of Mine Planning  
Pete Lien and Sons  
PO Box 440  
Rapid City, SD 57709-0440

Dear Mr. Gollhofer,

The department has completed review of the Notice of Intent to Conduct Mineral Exploration (EXNI) submitted on August 15, 2023. We have determined this application to be incomplete. Please address the following:

1. SDCL 1-41-20: Please sign and notarize the Certification of Applicant to confirm you are not in violation of any provision of SDCL 45-6C.
2. SDCL 45-6C-7(5): In the description for the proposed operation, it states there are a planned 32 drill sites located in the area of the mining claims. However, on the map provided we were only able to locate 31 drill sites on the map. Please confirm the number of sites and verify the map is correct.
3. SDCL 45-6C-7(6): The legal description indicates there is proposed exploration activity in Section 4 T2N R5E, however, the map provided does not show any proposed activity in this section. Please clarify if there is any proposed exploration activity in this section.
4. SDCL 45-6C-8(4): The proposed plugging plan only provides information on plugging the top eight feet of the drill holes. Please include plugging procedures for the remainder of the hole.
5. SDCL 45-6C-9: Two maps were provided with the application. The locations of the drill holes appear to be different between the two maps. Please confirm which map shows the correct location of the proposed exploration drill sites. Also, it would be helpful if the color scheme of the map were to have more contrasting colors as currently it is difficult to discern the various features on the map. Please also provide a general map which does not include the location of the proposed test holes so it may be placed online.

6. SDCL 45-6C-16: Prior to conducting any exploration activities on lands owned by the United States Forest Service, you will need to provide the DANR with a copy of the approved USFS Plan of Operations for this site.
  
7. SDCL 45-6C-19: The bond estimate provided indicates a reclamation cost of \$35,300. Please note that under this statute allows for a \$20,000 statewide maximum bond for exploration purposes. A bond will need to be in place prior to the start of any exploration activities. Therefore, DANR will not issue a restriction letter on this EXNI until the bond has been accepted and is in place. Also, please note that for operations on USFS lands, the USFS may request additional bonding beyond the \$20,000 statewide maximum bond.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

\s/

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