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**RE: [EXT] Re: Re: Pete Lien new EXNI**

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**From** Mike Gollhofer <MGollhofer@petelien.com>  
**Date** Mon 3/16/2026 8:13 AM  
**To** Hudson, Roberta <Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us>

1 attachment (10 MB)  
2026-03-06 EXNI NOI - Rochford Exploration Revision.pdf;

Good morning, Roberta,

I have attached revisions to the first page, page 4 signed and maps showing the locations of the two laydown yards.

A new surety for Pete Lien & Sons, Inc., EXNI's should be delivered to your office today via FedEx.

Please review them and let me know if you have any questions or need anything else.

Thanks again for all your help.  
Mike

Michael Gollhofer  
Senior Mine Planning Engineer  
Pete Lien & Sons, Inc

Office: (605) 939-2719  
Mobile: (605) 209-2619  
mgollhofer@petelien.com

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**From:** Hudson, Roberta <Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2026 11:23 AM  
**To:** Mike Gollhofer <MGollhofer@petelien.com>  
**Cc:** Holm, Eric <Eric.Holm@state.sd.us>  
**Subject:** [ExternalSender] Re: Re: Pete Lien new EXNI

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Thanks Mike!

For the laydown areas, it would help to identify where they will be located on the maps and we need the description of the size on the form. If you don't put the location on the maps, an approximate location should be placed in the description (i.e. "located ~ X distance from hole XX"). The assumption is that an exploration laydown area is for drilling equipment and supplies. I don't need additional information on what will be stored unless it doesn't follow this assumption. If there is potential for other stuff to be stored in them, I would expect to be provided with more detail and clarification.

Roberta Hudson, PE  
Engineering Manager I  
Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program

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**From:** Mike Gollhofer <[MGollhofer@petelien.com](mailto:MGollhofer@petelien.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2026 12:09 PM  
**To:** Hudson, Roberta <[Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us](mailto:Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us)>  
**Cc:** Holm, Eric <[Eric.Holm@state.sd.us](mailto:Eric.Holm@state.sd.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Re: Pete Lien new EXNI

Good morning Roberta,

Please let me know what additional information you need about the laydown areas.

Size, what will be stored?

I've sent an email to Andrea Westlake (NRCS) asking her to review and approve the seed mix the USFS specified.

I also chastised our bonding company for not including "All PLS EXNIs' within the State of South Dakota.

That is something I should have caught before sending it off though.

Then I did a head slap about the legal description and not signing the reclamation plan.

As soon as I hear back from Andrea and get an updated bond, I'll get them back to you.

Thank you, Mike

Michael Gollhofer

Senior Mine Planning Engineer

Pete Lien & Sons, Inc

Office: (605) 939-2719

Mobile: (605) 209-2619

[mgolliher@petelien.com](mailto:mgolliher@petelien.com)

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**From:** Hudson, Roberta <[Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us](mailto:Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 11, 2026 10:50 AM

**To:** Mike Golliher <[MGolliher@petelien.com](mailto:MGolliher@petelien.com)>

**Cc:** Holm, Eric <[Eric.Holm@state.sd.us](mailto:Eric.Holm@state.sd.us)>

**Subject:** [ExternalSender] Re: Pete Lien new EXNI

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Mike,

We also need the information for the laydown areas in the description for the application.

Thank you!

Roberta Hudson, PE

Engineering Manager I

Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program

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**From:** Hudson, Roberta <[Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us](mailto:Roberta.Hudson@state.sd.us)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026 5:02 PM

**To:** Mike Golliher <[mgolliher@petelien.com](mailto:mgolliher@petelien.com)>

**Cc:** Holm, Eric <[Eric.Holm@state.sd.us](mailto:Eric.Holm@state.sd.us)>

**Subject:** Pete Lien new EXNI

Mike,

We received your Exploration Notice of Intent and have completed our review. Please make the following corrections:

1. On the first page of the application form, the legal description provided is incorrect. It is also incorrectly quoted in the description for the proposed exploration operation. Please make the necessary corrections to the first page of the application and resubmit.
2. As per SDCL 45-6C-8(2), the USFS seed mix must be approved by the local conservation district. Please submit this seed mix to the local NRCS office for review and approval and submit proof of consultation to the department.
3. The reclamation plan portion of the application was not signed. Please submit a signed copy of the reclamation once any necessary corrections are made.

If you have any questions on the items outlined above, please contact me.

Roberta Hudson, PE

Engineering Manager I

Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program

Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Minerals and Mining Program  
523 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182  
605 773-4201; Fax: 605 773-5286

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONDUCT  
MINERAL EXPLORATION OPERATION  
(Excluding Uranium)**

**RECEIVED**

Pursuant to SDCL 45-6C

Mar 16, 2026

MINERALS, MINING, &  
SUPERFUND PROGRAM

Operator's name: Pete Lien & Sons, Inc

Mailing Address: PO Box 440, Rapid City, SD 57709-0440

Telephone: (605) 342-7224

Resident agent (if out-of-state corporation):

Resident agent address:

Telephone:

Legal description of area to be explored by Section, Township, and Range:

Sections 3, 4, 5, T1N, R3E; Section 25 T2N, R2E; Sections 30, 32, 33 T2N, R3E

County: Pennington County

Give a brief description of the type of exploration to be conducted. Include a list of all minerals to be explored and a description of methods (e.g. drill rig type, number of holes to be drilled, number of drill pads to be constructed, proposed depth for each test hole, length of existing access roads and/or new access road construction).

*Eighteen (18) drill holes are proposed within the Black Hills National Forest within Pennington County exploring for graphite.*

*They will be approximately three inches in diameter and will be drilled up to 1,000 feet in depth at a 45-degree angle. All drill sites are located within Sections 3, 4, 5, T1N, R3E; Section 25 T2N R2E; Sections 30, 32, 33 T2N, R3E and would measure approximately 30x50 feet for a combined area of disturbance of approximately 0.62 acres.*

*Two (2) laydown yards totaling approximately 0.30 acres (0.15 acres each or approximately 50 ft. wide x 130 long) are shown on the USFS maps included with this submittal. The general area for each is circled on the other two maps.*

*The drill will be a transportable over the road, track mounted core drill, capable of drilling a three (3) inch diameter hole.*

*Primary access to the drill sites within the BHNF National Forest Service roads and trails, primarily Rochford Road and South Rochford Road. To access general site locations, United States Forest Service (USFS) Roads 190 and 125 will be utilized for the northern drill sites (No. 6-8 and 11-15) and FS Roads 132 and 132.1B for the southern drill sites (No. 1-5 and 16-20). Additional cross-county travel and construction of access to drill sites will total less than 1.0 mile affecting approximately 1.82 acres.*

*Site preparation and clearing of vegetation will be completed with a compact track/skid steer loader (CTL) and mini excavator.*

Date exploration will commence: *Upon approval, weather permitting. To be completed within one (1) year.*

What legal authority does the operator have to conduct exploration on the above-described land? Include a copy if available.

Deed     Lease     US Forest Service Permit     Pending US Forest Service Permit     Other

Will the operator conduct uranium exploration?  Yes  No. If yes, a permit pursuant to SDCL 45-6D must be obtained.

3. Describe how the reclamation plan will rehabilitate the affected land.

*The objectives of reclamation measures under this Plan of Operations are to:*

- *Return areas disturbed by the operation to a stable configuration that approximates the original condition to the extent possible. All surface areas disturbed by the operation shall be contoured in such a way as to closely approximate either surface contours existing in the disturbed area before the start of operations or surface contours of immediately and adjacent undisturbed terrain. In all cases, resulting contours shall be made to blend and merge with surrounding natural ground surfaces in an unobtrusive way imitating natural surface features commonly found in the immediate area.*

4. Describe the anticipated temporary and permanent plugging and capping procedures to be used. Please refer to SDCL 45-6C-28 through 45-6C-30, SDCL 45-6D-33 through 45-6D-35, and the state's hole plugging regulations as detailed in ARSD 74:11.

*Drill holes will be sealed within 24-48 hours of drilling completion and before moving the drill rig.*

*A nondegradable, nonslip plug shall be placed at a point not less than eight feet below the ground surface and a five-foot column of cement grout shall be placed above the plug. Topsoil or material representative of the undisturbed surface material shall be tamped into the upper three feet of the drill hole.*

5. Provide the estimated cost of implementing and completing the proposed reclamation, and, the estimated cost of plugging and sealing each test hole.

*Pete Lien & Sons, Inc. is submitting a \$100,000 statewide surety to cover all exploration operations.*

***I declare and affirm under the penalties of perjury that this claim (petition, application, information) has been examined by me, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, is in all things true and correct.***



Signature

Date:

3/6/2026

Title: Senior Mine Planning Engineer, Pete Lien & Sons, Inc.