DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES RECOMMENDATION APPLICATION FOR TEMPORARY CESSATION OF MINE PERMIT PACER MINERALS LLC

Notice is hereby given that the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources has received an application for temporary cessation of mining operations under Large Scale Mine Permit 467 from Pacer Minerals LLC, 25429 US Hwy 385, Custer, South Dakota 57730-9147. The mining operation is located in SW1/4 and S1/2 NW1/4 Section 28; T2S-R4E, Custer County. The general location of the operation is approximately six miles northwest of Custer, SD. The primary mineral being mined is mica schist.

Pacer Minerals LLC has temporarily ceased mining operations under Mine Permit 467 pending a change in company ownership. Production will resume after the company has been purchased by another party, tentatively in early 2025. Pacer Minerals LLC will perform concurrent reclamation and site maintenance during the period of temporary cessation.

In accordance with SDCL 45-6B-3(8)(c), if the temporary cessation is approved, Pacer Minerals LLC must resume production within five years unless the Board of Minerals and Environment grants a five-year extension. If production does not resume within the required time period, Pacer Minerals LLC must reclaim the area pursuant to the reclamation plan for Permit 467.

The temporary cessation application is available for review at the Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, or on the Minerals, Mining, and Superfund web page at http://danr.sd.gov/Environment/MineralsMining/Exploration/NewMinePermitNoticesofTempCessation.aspx. Comments may be submitted in writing or online at http://danr.sd.gov/public/default.aspx. Written objections to, statements in support of, or petitions to intervene and become party to the proceedings pursuant to ARSD 74:29:01:09 must be filed with the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources no later than May 7, 2024. Information about the contents of a petition can be found in ARSD 74:09:01:01 at https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/26972. Petitions should be mailed to the Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182.

The department recommends that the Board of Minerals and Environment approve the application for temporary cessation. In accordance with SDCL 45-6B, SDCL 1-26, and ARSD 74:29:09, the temporary cessation will be granted pursuant to the department's recommendation unless the applicant or any interested person files a petition to initiate a contested case hearing.

Persons desiring further information may contact Eric Holm, Minerals, Mining, and Superfund Program, at (605) 773-4201.

Hunter Roberts Secretary Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources

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