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(S.D.)-Powertech Files Application For Uranium Mine

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/18/2013 07:45 AM

PIERRE, S.D. (AP) - Powertech Inc. has filed an application with the South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources for a permit to mine uranium and vanadium near Edgemont.

DENR says the application is one of four the company has filed relating to the company's proposed injection-well uranium mine.

Powertech plans to pump groundwater into the underground ore deposits near Edgemont to dissolve the uranium. The water would be pumped to the surface, where the uranium would be extracted. The company estimates the mine would produce 1 million pounds of uranium oxide a year for 20 years.

Comments or petitions to intervene on the application must be filed with the department's Minerals and Mining Program by Feb. 19.

If petitioned, a hearing before the state Board of Minerals and Environment will take place.

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