

**NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF SPECIAL,
EXCEPTIONAL, CRITICAL OR UNIQUE LANDS
WHARF RESOURCES (USA) INC.**

Notice is hereby given that Wharf Resources (USA) Inc., 10928 Wharf Road, Lead, South Dakota 57754-9710, has submitted a Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources for a gold mining operation. The legal description of the operation is Portions of Sections 2 and 3; T4N-R2E, Lawrence County. Wharf Resources (USA) Inc. has submitted the Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate for purposes of determining whether the lands potentially affected by the proposed mining operation are eligible for inclusion on the preliminary list of special, exceptional, critical, or unique lands.

The proposed operation involves a 47.4-acre expansion of Wharf Resources (USA) Inc.'s existing gold mining operation on land approximately four miles west of Lead, South Dakota. Topsoil and subsoil will be stripped and stockpiled for use in concurrent and future reclamation activities. Ore will be processed through cyanide heap leach methods before being treated and used along with waste rock as backfill in the mine pits. Reclamation will be conducted concurrently with the mining operation. The proposed postmining land use is woodland grazing and recreation.

The Request 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 Request is also available for public review at the Lawrence County Register of Deeds office in Deadwood, South Dakota. Comments may be submitted in writing or online at <https://danr.sd.gov/public/default.aspx>.

Any citizen, organization, or agency may nominate lands described in this Request for Determination of Special, Exceptional, Critical or Unique Lands and Notice of Intent to Operate for inclusion on the preliminary list of special, exceptional, critical, or unique lands by

submitting a nominating petition to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Information about the contents of a nominating petition can be found in ARSD 74:29:10:16 at <https://www.sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/27704>. The deadline for submitting comments or a nominating petition is May 2, 2022. The petitions must be procedurally complete and must contain all the information required in ARSD 74:29:10:16 and 20. Petitions received after the deadline or deemed procedurally incomplete will not be considered. Written comments or petitions should be mailed to the Minerals and Mining Program, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182. Persons desiring further information may contact Roberta Hudson, Minerals and Mining Program, at (605) 773-4201.