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(S.D.)-Powertech Uranium Mine Hearing Draws Opponents, Supporters

By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 09/24/2013 08:19 AM



Photo: Powertech workers collect a Rotary Drill Sample at the Dewey Burdock site in March 2007. (Photo courtesy of www.powertechuranium.com)

RAPID CITY, S.D. (ASSOCIATED PRESS) - Dozens of opponents of a proposed uranium mine in western South Dakota are lobbying state officials to reject the project.

The state Board of Minerals and Environment is holding a hearing this week in Rapid City on Powertech Uranium Corp.'s plans for a large-scale mine near Edgemont in the southern Black Hills.

Opponents fear the mine will damage water supplies and believe health risks outweigh the economic benefits. Powertech officials dispute that.

The proposed Dewey-Burdock mine does have its supporters. At least a dozen Edgemont residents came out during the public hearing Monday to urge the state board to approve a mining permit.