

LEONARDITE PRODUCTS-LLC

February 18, 2016

Julie Fedorchak
Randy Christmann
Brian Kalk
North Dakota Public Service Commission
600 E. Boulevard, Dept. 408
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Dear Commissioners:

Leonardite Products has been in operation since 2008. We took over the facility and mine in Williston started by GeoResources in 1964.

We support the rule change adding the term "commercial leonardite" in accordance with the changes made to the ND Century Code during the last legislative session. This change distinguishes leonardite from coal.

American Colloid based out of Gascoyne, ND mines leonardite in southwestern North Dakota and is also supportive of this rule change.

This change was made to address federal regulations affecting leasing and royalty charges. Commercial leonardite and coal have different uses, processing methods and business models. Imposing federal coal leasing and royalties to leonardite mining and processing companies is not viable and creates a competitive disadvantage in the US and global market.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,



Cherie Harms
President

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Letter in support of proposed rules
Leonardite Products LLC
Cherie Harms, President