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CALENDAR

	≪ .	Jan.	20	11	>>	
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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CARD appeals Powertech test permit

January 7, 2011 --WASHINGTON, D.C. — Powertech USA will have to wait to begin an aquifer pump test at its Centennial uranium mining project until the Environmental Protection Agency considers an appeal of the permit for the test.

The appeal petition was filed Jan. 3 by Coloradoans Against Resource Destruction, a coalition of residents of northern Weld County near the proposed mine site just outside of Nunn. At issue is the Dec. 3 decision by the EPA's Region 8 office to issue a permit allowing Powertech to re-inject water pumped out of the Upper Fox Hills Formation underground to study the hydrogeology of the area. The data would be used to prepare permit applications for the proposed in-situ uranium recovery project.

The pump-test permit is stayed while the Environmental Appeals Board considers the appeal. The independent review board first must decide whether it will review the appeal. If it does, it has the option of sending the permit back to the Region 8 office for modification, or it can overturn the regional decision and deny the pump-test permit. Board decisions are subject to judicial review in federal court.

Powertech initially filed its pump-test permit application with the EPA on April 30, 2009. A first draft permit was issued on June 15, 2009, followed by an amended draft on Nov. 20, 2009. The final permit was issued on Dec. 3, 2010, and would have become effective Jan. 3, 2011, had no appeal been filed.

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CARD APPEALS POWERTECH TEST PERMIT

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