



Joint Committee on Appropriations
SENATOR ERNIE OTTEN, CO-CHAIR
REPRESENTATIVE MIKE DERBY, CO-CHAIR

March 12, 2026
Scott Landguth, Executive Director
South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority
PO Box 477
Rapid City, SD 57709

Letter of Intent Regarding SB 130 Special Appropriation

Dear Director Landguth,

This Letter of Intent sets forth a particular view held by the Joint Committee on Appropriations (JCA) in approving your appropriation in the 2026 Legislative session. As such, this Letter of Intent seeks to supplement that legislation with specific policy guidance as approved on March 11, 2026.

While the guidance does not have the direct force of statutory law, it rests solidly on a long-standing tradition of Legislative-Executive relationships in South Dakota and it will be used by the Joint Committee as one basis for the fiscal oversight of your agency and its continued funding.

SB 130 appropriated \$8,000,000 in general funds to the South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority for the purpose of funding public roadway and related infrastructure improvements required because of construction activity occurring on Ellsworth Air Force Base. These funds must be used for public roadway and related infrastructure improvements necessary to support, mitigate, and address impacts from construction activity occurring on Ellsworth Air Force Base. This funding is contingent upon a statement from Rapid City, Box Elder, Pennington County, and Meade County to provide for all future maintenance and repair for the roads and infrastructure associated with the project as well as any costs in excess of the funding provided in SB 130 for improvements made within their respective jurisdictions.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Representative Mike Derby
Lead Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

Senator Ernie Otten
Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Appropriations

cc: Russell Olson, Auditor General
Jim Terwilliger, Commissioner, Bureau of Finance and Management