



# BLACK HILLS DEFENSE & INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM: LEADING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE DISCUSSION

**APRIL 10-11, 2024**  
**The Box Elder Convention Center**



Why is the defense economy vital to our region?

What is going on with this industry-leading government-community partnership, focused on ensuring we have clean water?

How can you expand your business portfolio by contracting with the government?

What is being done to improve the military family quality of life and where can you voice your concerns?

What can you do to strengthen our region as a military-community epicenter?

**All of these questions and much more will be answered at the 2024 Black Hills Defense and Industry Symposium.**



To learn more and secure your ticket, visit [www.bhsymposium.com](http://www.bhsymposium.com) or scan the QR code.

**Ticket purchase includes admission to all sessions on both days**

***This annual event will bring leaders of academia, research, industry, military and the Black Hills communities together for meaningful dialogue on the importance of defense investment in western South Dakota.***

**REGISTER AT**  
**[www.bhsymposium.com](http://www.bhsymposium.com)**





# BLACK HILLS DEFENSE SYMPOSIUM RECEPTION

**YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO  
ATTEND AN OPENING RECEPTION  
FOR THE BLACK HILLS INDUSTRY AND  
DEFENSE SYMPOSIUM, SPONSORED  
BY SOUTH DAKOTA MINES.**

**Join us for hors d'oeuvres,  
drinks, and conversation  
with leaders in academia,  
research, industry,  
military and our Black  
Hills communities.**

**THE BOX ELDER EVENTS CENTER**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10TH 5PM TO 7PM**

RSVP to [Ann.Brentlinger@sdsmt.edu](mailto:Ann.Brentlinger@sdsmt.edu) by Monday, April 8th

 **SOUTH DAKOTA MINES®**







# BLACK HILLS DEFENSE & INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM

## April 10-11, 2024

The Black Hills Defense & Industry Symposium is a 2-day long regional conference featuring discussions around defense entrepreneurship, development, national security, military quality of life, critical minerals, and local industry opportunities. We feature key leaders from the US Congress, Department of Defense, US Air Force, National Guard, US Army Corps of Engineers, and many more. We expect approximately 500 attendees at this event. This is an opportunity to be a part of a premier event focused on the growing defense industry of the area.

### **SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **EVENT TITLE SPONSOR**

**\$10,000**

- Recognized as the *Premier Title* sponsor for the Symposium
- Business spotlighted on all marketing assets to include, but not limited to:
  - Welcome Signage at Event Entrance
  - Welcome Signage at Registration
  - Logo on Lanyards/Credentials
  - Logo on Tickets
  - Logo and Title on All Breaks/Lunch Materials
  - Logo on all Symposium Marketing Materials
  - On-site Booth at the Event
  - Up to 6 Tickets to the Event

#### **EVENT SPONSOR**

**\$1,000**

- Recognized as premier sponsor of the Symposium
- Business spotlighted in Symposium event materials and marketing assets
- On-Site Booth at Event
- 2 Tickets to Event

#### **BOOTH SPONSOR**

**\$500**

- Business included in Symposium event materials and marketing assets
- On-Site Booth at Event

**###**

- The Symposium team will work directly with sponsors/vendors on all necessary marketing assets.
- All booths are asked to provide a minimum \$50 door prize. (*Drawing will be Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.*)
- All Sponsors will be listed in the event program, logo on jumbotron, social media marketing and other materials related to the sponsorship level.
- For more details or to become a sponsor please contact Tony at [tony.nishimura@ellsworthauthority.org](mailto:tony.nishimura@ellsworthauthority.org) or at 605.484.8864 or Tif at [tif.robertson@ellsworthauthority.org](mailto:tif.robertson@ellsworthauthority.org) or at 605.545.7865.



**2024 Northrop Grumman  
Black Hills Defense & Industry  
Symposium  
Box Elder Event Center, Box Elder**



**Day 1- Wednesday, April 10, 2024**

7:30 am: Doors open

7:30 am - 5:00 pm: Event check-in & badge pick-up

8:30 am - 4:30 pm: PFOS/PFOA Technical Seminar - Lancer C/D

8:30 am: Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance (Emcee TBD)

8:40 am: PFOS/PFOA Technical Seminar

Starting with technical presentations and discussions focused on PFOS/PFOA challenges locally and nationally. We will have experts from academia, government, and industry highlighting technologies, remediation, and local perspectives. Audience participation in the discussion will be intermixed during the event.

11:00 am - 1:00 pm: Lunch on your own

1:00 pm: PFOS/PFOA Technical Seminar

4:30 pm: Session End

1:00 pm - 4:30 pm: The Perils of Theater Nuclear Escalation War Game - Main Ballroom -  
Presented by South Dakota Ellsworth Development Authority

1:00 pm: War Game Kickoff: **General Timothy Ray**, USAF (Ret.), President & Chief Executive Office, Business Executives for National Security - Main Ballroom

1:15 pm: War Game Begins: Lead Facilitator, **Dr. Christopher Yeaw**, PhD, Associate Executive Director for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Programs

War Game Scenario: Based on a near-peer, nuclear-capable INDO-PACOM threat as the perils inherent in theater nuclear employment based on a real-world threat with realistic "Blue Team" inputs. This exercise will be the realization of how vulnerable our nation may be in confronting an adversary that can capably execute nuclear escalation.

4:30 pm: **Opening General Session** - Main Ballroom

Featured Speaker: **Brig. Gen. Gentry W. Boswell**, USAF, (Retired) - Vice President of Defense Industry Operations at VRC Metal Systems

5:00 - 7:00 pm: South Dakota Mines Reception – Foyer

**Day 2- Thursday, April 11, 2024**

6:30 am: Doors Open

7:00 am: Networking/Coffee Social - Foyer

8:00 am: **General Session** - Main Ballroom

- Welcome
- Kickoff Speaker: **Congressman Dusty Johnson** - Via video
- Opening Speaker: **Major General Mark Morrell**, SDNG Adjutant General

9:00 am: Track Session A

- Applied Research (Critical Minerals)
- Rural Water Systems (PFOS/PFOA)
- Small Business Innovation, Research Projects (Innovation)
- Design & Construction Opportunities (DOD/ Construction)

10:00 am: **General Session** - Main Ballroom

**Sean Jackson**, VP, Deputy Program Manager, Northrop Grumman\*tentative

10:30am: Connection Break: Vendors/Sponsors/Snacks - Foyer

11:00 am: Track Session B

- Workforce (Critical Minerals)
- R&DD, Technology, Transfer & Opportunities (PFOS/PFOA)
- Contracting w/ the Government - Small Businesses (Doing Business w/the AF)
- AI & BIM - What it means for A/E's & Contractors (DOD/Construction)

12:00 pm: **Black Hills MAC Chow Hall Luncheon** - Main Ballroom

- Social & Buffet Lunch
- Welcome: **Tim Houghton**, PS Precision CFO, BH Symposium Chair
- Featured Speaker: **Nancy Balkus**, P.E. - Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety and Infrastructure, Headquarters USAF
- Featured Speaker: **Lieutenant General Caroline Miller**, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower Personnel and Services, Headquarters USAF

1:30 pm: Track Session C

- Commercialization (Critical Minerals)
- Collaboration - Government, Industry, Academic Partnerships (PFOS/PFOA)
- Family Programs - Childcare, Housing, etc. (Quality of Life)
- Match Making Opportunities (DOD/ Construction)

- DoD - Raider A
- Primes - Raider B

2:30 pm:     Track Session D

- Policy (Critical Minerals)
- Military Construction: PFAS & Sustainability (PFOS/PFOA)
- Employment Opportunities for Military (Quality of Life)
- Match Making Opportunities Continued (DOD/Construction)

3:30 pm:     Ellsworth & B-21 Raider Update

- **Colonel Derek Oakley**, 28 BW Commander - Main Ballroom

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm: Social presented by Elevate Rapid City & HS Precision

- Prize Drawings

5:30 pm: Tours Depart

- SD Mines Cold Spray Lab Tour
- Mt. Rushmore & Dinner Tour