



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Notice of Proposed Action

August 28, 2006 - Web Posting Date

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of the Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Pipeline Infiltration Project**, a mine dewatering water management and infiltration facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0095111 is:

Cortez Joint Venture dba Cortez Gold Mines
HC66 Box 1250
Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821-1250

The facility is located on public and private land in Lander County, within Sections 13, 15, 21, 22, and 27, Township 28 North, Range 47 East, Sections 13 and 24, T 27 N, R 46 E, Sections 23 and 26, T 26 N, R 46 E, and Section(s) 7, 18, and 19, T 27 N, R 47 E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 35 miles southeast of the town of Battle Mountain.

The project consists of a mine dewatering water management and infiltration facility designed to infiltrate mine dewatering water back into the source State of Nevada Ground Water Basin N^o 54 - Crescent Valley at a maximum rate of 34,500 gallons per minute. The facility is comprised of dewatering wells for the Pipeline open pit mining operation and the Cortez Hills underground exploration workings, infiltration basins, irrigation pivots, conveyance pipelines, pumps, and associated water quality monitoring and water management wells. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to either issue the renewal Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewal permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Water Pollution Control Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

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Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Miles Shaw on (775) 687-9409 or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>

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