



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Web posting 8/31/2009
September 3, 2009

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Rochester Mine, a mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0050037 is:

Coeur Rochester, Inc.
P.O. Box 1057
Lovelock, Nevada 89419-1057

The facility is located on public and private land in Pershing County, within Sections 9, 10, 15, 16, 21, 22, 27, 28, 32, and 33, Township 28 North, Range 34 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 28 miles northeast of the town of Lovelock.

The project consists of open-pit mining and a Merrill-Crowe zinc precipitation beneficiation facility, designed to extract primarily silver and some gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 9,100,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of two open pit mines, eight rock disposal sites, ore crushing facilities, three valley-fill heap leach pads, four process ponds, three stormwater basins, a silver/gold recovery process plant, and ancillary facilities. Mining from the two pits ceased in August 2007. 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 by hand delivery, United States Postal Service, facsimile, or e-mail no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal deadline October 3, 2009) to:

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

All comments, objections, or requests received during the public notice period will be considered

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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 Paul Eckert on (775) 687-9401 or visit the Bureau of Mining's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm> .

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