

STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

**Director's Review and Preliminary Determination of Permit Issuance
For Nevada Mercury Control Program
Mercury Operating Permit to Construct**

June 22, 2011

Barrick Cortez, Inc. has submitted an existing unit application for a Phase-2 Mercury Operating Permit to Construct (MOPTC) pursuant to NAC 445B.3663.1 to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection-Bureau of Air Pollution Control (NDEP-BAPC) for three systems consisting of one existing electro-winning circuit (East), one existing pregnant strip solution tank and one existing barren strip solution tank; one additional existing electro-winning circuit (West); and two existing carbon regeneration kilns on February 1, 2008.

The applicable facility, located in air shed basin #54, in Lander County is:

Barrick Cortez, Inc.
HC 66, Box 1250; Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821-1250
38 miles South of Interstate 80, exit #261 (Beowawe) on State Route 306, Nevada

The NDEP-BAPC has reviewed the application and has made a preliminary determination to issue the MOPTC. The draft MOPTC is for three systems consisting of one existing electro-winning circuit (East), one existing pregnant strip solution tank and one existing barren strip solution tank (System 1); one additional existing electro-winning circuit (West – System 2); and two existing carbon regeneration kilns (System 4) with emission performance standards and control technologies determined to be NvMACT pursuant to NAC 445B.3677.3.

The draft MOPTC includes requirements for monitoring, recordkeeping, annual stack testing for mercury emissions, annual emissions reporting, annual mercury co-product reporting, limits of operation, and work practice standards which minimize emissions of mercury to the atmosphere. The permit also includes mercury emission limits for each system.

Initial determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions performance for System 1 is 5×10^{-3} gr/dscf mercury. The final NvMACT mercury emission limit shall be determined pursuant to the emission control demonstration period. The final NvMACT mercury emission limit for System 2 is 5×10^{-5} gr/dscf mercury. The final NvMACT mercury emission limit for each unit in System 4 is 1×10^{-4} gr/dscf mercury. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emission control technologies for the systems is as follows:

- System 1 – exhaust air de-mister, pre-heater and a sulfur impregnated carbon tray system;
- System 2 – exhaust air de-mister, pre-heater and a sulfur impregnated carbon tray system, and;
- System 4 – a venturi wet scrubber and a sulfur impregnated carbon bed.

The proposed project will not cause or contribute to a violation of any applicable Federal or State air quality standard. After review of the application and independent NDEP-BAPC analyses, the Agency has determined that the Barrick Cortez, Inc. MOPTC may be issued and operated. The proposed sources must

comply with all State and Federal air quality requirements and all conditions established within the draft MOPTC.

Copies of this permit action's public notice and the draft Mercury Operating Permit to Construct are available for review on the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection - Bureau of Air Pollution Control website at: <http://ndep.nv.gov/bapc/hg/pub.html>