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

March 31, 2011

Barrick, Bald Mountain Mine 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 carbon regeneration kiln, one existing bullion furnace, one existing electro-winning circuit and one existing barren strip solution tank on February 1, 2008.

The applicable facility, located in air shed basin #47, in White Pine County is:
Barrick, Bald Mountain Mine
P.O. Box 2706; Elko, Nevada 89803
60 miles South, Southeast of Elko, 9 miles Southwest of Overland Pass, 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 carbon regeneration kiln (System 1), one existing bullion furnace (System 3), and one existing electro-winning circuit and one existing barren strip solution tank (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 each system is: 5×10^{-3} gr/dscf mercury. Final NvMACT mercury emission limits shall be determined pursuant to the emissions control demonstration period. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emission control technologies for the systems is as follows:

- System 1 – an off gas cooler and a sulfur impregnated carbon bed;
- System 3 – a baghouse and a sulfur impregnated carbon tray system, and;
- System 4 – an exhaust de-mister and pre-heater followed by 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, Bald Mountain Mine 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