



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

## FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Applicant:** Newmont Mining Corporation  
1655 Mountain City Highway  
Elko, NV 89801

**Permit Number:** NV0022268

**Facility Locations:** Gold Quarry Mine Water Treatment Facility  
6 miles north of Carlin, off SR 766  
Eureka County, Nevada  
Section 31, T34N R52E  
Latitude: 40° 47' 7.47" N, Longitude: 116° 10' 4.79" W

**Discharge Outfalls:** 001: End of Pipe discharge to Maggie Creek  
Latitude: 40° 47' 26.25" N, Longitude: 116° 09' 34" W

**General:** The Permittee owns and operates the Gold Quarry Mine, an open-pit gold mining and milling facility located approximately 6 miles north of Carlin off SR 766, in Eureka County, Nevada. The pit spans 1480 acres, with a design depth extending to 2,000 feet below the pre-mined grade surface. Surface discharge from dewatering of excess mine water was initiated in 1994. Dewatering wells are configured around the perimeter of the pit for groundwater management. Dewatering extraction rates range from a long-term average of 30 million gallons per day (MGD) to a maximum daily value of 90 MGD, depending on the season and operational parameters. Prior to discharge, extracted water may be treated in a precipitation/filtration process to remove naturally occurring arsenic, depending on water quality. The Gold Quarry Water Treatment Facility (GQWTF) was designed to continuously remove arsenic and suspended solids from the groundwater prior to discharge. Ferric sulfate and cationic and anionic flocculants are used to co-precipitate and entrap the dissolved arsenic in a ferric hydroxide matrix that forms chemically stable solid particles. Discharge is directed to Maggie Creek (Creek), or diverted to Maggie Creek Reservoir during high creek flows, and ultimately to the Humboldt River.

**Description of the Location of the Discharge:** Extracted water is conveyed approximately 1 to 1.5 miles east of the Gold Quarry pit to discharge to Maggie Creek. If seasonal creek flows are high, water may be temporarily stored in Maggie Creek Reservoir prior to discharge at Outfall 001 until flows subside to allow direct discharge at the Outfall 001 location. If the reservoir is used, discharge water is detoured to the Reservoir approximately 0.25-mile northeast of the Outfall 001 location.

**Discharge Characteristics:** Discharged water is non-process, non-contact dewatering water extracted for mining and pit expansion. Discharge characteristics have been limited by

previous permits for parameters including flow, dissolved oxygen, pH, total dissolved solids (TDS), temperature, arsenic, manganese, cadmium, iron, mercury, selenium, total nitrogen, weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide, total phosphorus, turbidity, and total suspended solids.

Discharge flow varied during reporting years 2006-2011 from 0 to approximately 28 cubic feet per second (cfs), with a long-term average flow rate of approximately 25.8 cfs (16.7 MGD). Permitted flow rates for the 30-day average and daily maximum are 72 and 90 MGD, respectively, to accommodate seasonal and operational variations. Discharge temperature ranges from approximately 7 to 30 °Celsius (°C), depending on seasonal influences. Metals such as manganese, cadmium, iron, mercury, selenium, and total phosphorus (phosphorus-containing compounds) have consistently been reported at concentrations several orders of magnitude below permit limitations or below method detection limits. Arsenic concentrations range from 0.020 to 0.040 milligrams per liter (mg/l) versus the permit limitation of 0.050 mg/l.

The data on file for the 5-year period between 2006 and 2011 supports the premise that the Gold Quarry pit dewatering discharge does not compromise the water quality standards established for Maggie Creek or the Humboldt River at the Palisade Gage. Temperature and TDS discharge conditions at the outfall are in compliance with the water quality standards for the parameters that are applicable to the affected reach of Maggie Creek, designated in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.1496.

The TDS discharge criteria for Maggie Creek at the Humboldt River designates a maximum of “500 mg/l or the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile (whichever is less).” Because there are now several years of TDS data that have been compiled for compliance purposes reflecting water quality conditions in Maggie Creek upstream of the discharge, a single-value permit limitation has been established for this monitoring parameter. Using the water quality criteria of the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of upstream TDS values because it is less than 500 mg/l, a permit limitation of 445 mg/l (retained from the previous permit) is appropriate.

In addition to the discrete application of Maggie Creek water quality standards to the discharge, protection of Humboldt River water quality is an integral objective. Therefore, additional monitoring in the Humboldt River is required for those specific parameters that have the potential to adversely affect water quality in the River. Given the historic monitoring data reported, the parameters of reasonable concern with respect to water quality in the Humboldt River are TDS and temperature, and both of these parameters have additional monitoring requirements to ensure adequate protection of the Humboldt. In addition, Whole Effluent Testing is required annually to confirm that the toxicity characteristics of the discharge do not compromise aquatic life.

**Flow:** The Permittee has applied for a 30-day average flow of 72 MGD and a daily maximum flow of 90 MGD; these limits are retained from the previous permit. Current operational flows are 16.7 MGD (30-day average) and 18.2 MGD for the daily maximum.

**Receiving Water Characteristics:** The primary receiving water body is Maggie Creek, tributary to the Humboldt River. At the point of discharge, designated Outfall 001, Maggie Creek is assigned water quality standards consistent with applicable beneficial uses, and this

set of standards forms the basis of the developed discharge limitations. Natural water quality conditions upstream of the affected reach of the Creek are often outside the tolerances of beneficial uses (NAC 445A.1496 and 445A.1236).

Characteristics of the Creek along the reach immediately prior to the Gold Quarry discharge reflect hydraulically losing conditions, often rendering the Creek dry at the point of discharge. Diurnal and seasonal temperatures can fluctuate widely, with historic measurements fluctuating from 0.5 to 28 °C, and the Creek along the reach incorporating the discharge is not habitat for trout. Flow rates in the Creek have historically fluctuated between 0 and 18 cfs (USGS data Maggie Creek Canyon).

Although the discharge is to Maggie Creek, which has relevant water quality standards, the protection of water quality in the Humboldt River necessitates additional monitoring downstream of the confluence of Maggie Creek with the Humboldt River (referenced to the Palisade Gage). The Humboldt River at the Palisade Gage monitoring station exhibits seasonal temperatures that range from approximately 1 to 24 °C, with flow rates ranging from 26 to 1260 cfs (USGS data Palisade Gage).

**Maggie Creek Reservoir** acts as backup storage in the event of high creek flows. Discharge is detoured from the Creek approximately ¼ mile northeast of the Outfall 001 discharge location. Once the seasonal high flows subside, the dewatering system resumes direct discharge to the Creek. The Reservoir dam crest elevation is 5,230 feet and the normal maximum water elevation is 5,224 feet with a storage capacity of approximately 6,000 acre-feet.

**Site Groundwater:** In the area of the treatment facility/discharge location, the elevation of the groundwater table ranges from approximately 40-100 feet below ground surface, and it varies substantially with location. The local groundwater flow is generally south-southeast towards the Humboldt River. Arsenic is naturally occurring and elevated above the primary drinking water standard of 0.01 mg/l, averaging 0.022 mg/l. There are no public drinking water supply wells within 6000 feet of the GQWTF or the discharge outfall. The GQWTF is not within 6000 feet of a Drinking Water Protection Area.

**Corrective Actions Sites:** There are no Bureau of Corrective Actions (BCA) remediation sites within a one-mile radius of the GQWTF or discharge outfall location.

**Discharge Characteristics:** The facility has a design capacity of 72 MGD (30-day average) and 90 MGD daily maximum. During the period from 2006-2011, the following selected discharge characteristics shown in Table 1 were reported in Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs):

**Table 1. Maggie Creek Outfall 001 (A or MC-A) Water Quality Data (2006-2011)**

Parameters and Units		Permit Limit	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Number of Exceedances
Discharge Rate (MGD)	30-Day Avg	72	15.1	26.0	0.00	0
	Daily Max	90	15.2	32.6	0.00	0
TDS (mg/l)	Daily Max	M&R	344	398	248	0
pH (S.U.)	Minimum	6.0	7.84	---	6.57	0

Parameters and Units		Permit Limit	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	Number of Exceedances
	Maximum	9.0		8.48	---	0
CN, Total (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.022	0.0025	0.0066	---	0
Arsenic (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.05	0.022	0.036	0.018	0
Manganese (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.1	0.015	0.04	0.0052	0
Cadmium (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.005	0.0001	0.000269	0.0001	0
Iron (mg/l)	Daily Max	1.0	0.13	0.83	0.02	0
Mercury (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.002	<0.002	<0.002	0.000011	0
Selenium (mg/l)	Daily Max	0.05	0.0024	0.00344	0.001	0
Total P (mg/l)	Daily Max	1.0	0.019	0.076	0.01	0
DO (mg/l)	Daily Max	≥5.0	7.32	12.40	4.6	2
Hardness (mg/l)	Daily Max	M&R	231.1	447	157	0
Temperature (°C)	Daily Max	34	22.6	30.2	14	0

The facility has been in substantial compliance with permit limitations. There have been two minor exceptions of permit limits since December 2006: both for DO, with a permit limit of ≥ 5.0 mg/l, one at 4.6 in May 2010 and one at 4.69 in July 2011. Minor changes were made to the treatment system to prevent further excursions from the DO permit limit.

**Proposed Discharge Limitations, Sampling and Monitoring Requirements:**

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified in Table I.A.1 of the Permit are collected at the following locations:

**Outfall 001 - A or MC-A:** the end-of-pipe discharge to Maggie Creek;

**Mag 2 (Maggie Creek Background):** the midpoint of Maggie Creek, 440 feet upstream from Outfall 001;

**C (Maggie Creek Compliance Point 1):** the midpoint of Maggie Creek, 33 feet downstream from Outfall 001 into Maggie Creek;

**Mag 1 (Maggie Creek Compliance Point 2):** the midpoint of Maggie Creek on the upstream side of the intersection with old Highway 40 (approximately 5.9 miles downstream of Outfall 001);

**F (Humboldt River Background):** the midpoint of the Humboldt River, 100 feet upstream of the confluence with Maggie Creek; and

**J (Humboldt River Compliance Point 1):** the midpoint of the Humboldt River at ‘the gate’, approximately 1/3 mile downstream of the confluence with Maggie Creek.

Note: Sample locations A, C, F, J, Mag 1, and Mag 2 are named using the same nomenclature as used in previous permits for consistency, with additional descriptors provided for clarity.

There shall be no discharge except as authorized by this permit, and there shall be no discharge of substances that would cause a violation of water quality standards of the State. The treated and discharged groundwater will be managed in such a way so as to not degrade downstream water quality.

Water quality shall be limited and monitored by the Permittee as specified in Table 2.

**Table 2. Water Quality Limitations, Sampling and Monitoring Requirements**

Parameters	Units	Discharge Limitations		Monitoring Requirements		
		30-Day Average	Daily Max	Sampling Locations	Monitoring Frequency	Monitoring Type
Flow	MGD	72	90	A	Continuous	Flow meter
Flow <sup>1</sup>	cfs	M&R	M&R	Mag 2	Weekly	Inspection (flow/no flow)
Flow <sup>1</sup>	cfs	M&R	M&R	Mag 2	Monthly	Flow meter
pH	S.U.	6.5-9.0		A	Monthly	Discrete
TDS	mg/l	445	445	A	Monthly	Discrete
CN -Total	mg/l	.0052	.022	A	Monthly	Discrete
Arsenic <sup>2</sup>	mg/l	.05	.05	A	Monthly	Discrete
Manganese	mg/l	0.1	0.1	A	Monthly	Discrete
Cadmium	mg/l	0.005	0.005	A	Monthly	Discrete
Iron	mg/l	1.0	1.0	A	Monthly	Discrete
Mercury <sup>3</sup>	µg/l	0.77 <sup>3</sup>	1.4 <sup>3</sup>	A	Monthly	Discrete
Selenium	mg/l	0.005	0.02	A	Monthly	Discrete
Total Phosphorus as P	mg/l	0.33	0.33	A	Monthly	Discrete
DO	mg/l	≥ 5.0	≥ 5.0	A	Monthly	Discrete
Hardness	mg/l	M&R	M&R	A	Monthly	Discrete
Temperature	°C	34	34	A	Weekly	Discrete
Temperature	°C	M&R	M&R	Mag 2, C, Mag 1, F	Monthly	Discrete
Δ T <sup>4</sup>	°C	2.0	2.0	F, J	Monthly	Discrete
TDS	mg/l	M&R	M&R	Mag2, Mag1, F, J	Monthly	Discrete
TDS <sup>5</sup>	mg/l	A-Avg: ≤ 350 or ≤ A-Avg at F		J	Annually	Discrete
TSS	mg/l	M&R	M&R	Mag2, Mag 1	Monthly	Discrete
Profile I <sup>6</sup>	mg/l	M&R	M&R	A	Annually	Discrete
WET <sup>7</sup>	µg/l	---	M&R	A	Annually <sup>7</sup>	Discrete

**Table 3. Table Definitions and Footnote Explanations**

Term/ Footnote	Definitions and Footnote Explanations
MGD	Million gallons per day
cfs	Cubic feet per second
M&R	Monitor and report
S.U.	Standard pH units

mg/l	Milligrams per liter
CN	Cyanide, total
as P	As phosphorus
DO	Dissolved oxygen
ΔT	Change in temperature
TDS	Total dissolved solids
A-Avg	Annual average
TSS	Total suspended solids
Profile I	All parameters on Nevada Profile I list
WET	Whole effluent toxicity testing
μg/l	Micrograms per liter
Footnote 1	Flow in Maggie Creek at Mag 2 (upstream of Outfall 001) shall be monitored and noted whether there is flow or not; if there is flow the measurement shall be reported.
Footnote 2	Discharge may be treated to minimize arsenic concentrations. The limit is set by the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Municipal or Domestic Supply referenced in NAC 445A.1236.
Footnote 3	The mercury limit is set at 1.4 μg/l acute aquatic life criteria standard and 0.7 μg/l chronic aquatic life criteria standard established in NAC445 A.1236.
Footnote 4	Monitor Humboldt River temperature at F and J (upstream and downstream of Maggie Creek confluence with the Humboldt River, respectively). Change between F and J ≤ 2.0 °C.
Footnote 5	See TDS discussion in Rationale Section of Fact Sheet.
Footnote 6	Sample and analyze annually, in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter, and report on the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter DMR.
Footnote 7	Conduct WET testing annually in the 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter, and report in January, per Permit Section I.A.6. Also note WET testing discussion in Rationale Section of Fact Sheet.

**Rationale for Permit Requirements:** The Division’s rationale for the proposed permit limitations and monitoring requirements is discussed below:

Permit requirements are designed to be consistent with the water quality standards for Maggie Creek between Soap Creek and the Humboldt River, referenced in NAC 445A.1496. Where relevant or applicable, Humboldt River Water Quality Standards at the Palisade Gage are referenced or used (NAC 445A.1438). In instances where Maggie Creek exhibits natural water quality standards outside the specified criteria and/or is dry at the location of discharge, narrative standards and best professional judgment have been used to establish particular parameter limitations in place of absolute water quality standards.

**Flow:** Flow rates based on pump and treatment system capacity.

**pH:** Limitation based on the water quality standards for Maggie Creek, NAC 445A.1496.

**Total Cyanide:** Limitation based on the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Aquatic Life Standard, NAC 445A.1236.

**Arsenic:** 0.05 mg/l limit is based on the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Municipal or Domestic Supply, NAC 445A.1236. Arsenic is naturally occurring and elevated above the primary drinking water standard of 0.01 mg/l.

**Manganese:** Limitation based on Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Irrigation Supply, NAC 445A.1236 and Secondary Drinking Water Standards, NAC 445A.445 (1994).

**Cadmium:** Limitation based on the Primary Drinking Water Standard and the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Municipal or Domestic Supply, NAC 445A.1236. Calculations using historic hardness data (225 mg/l) yield chronic and acute aquatic life standard values of 1.8 and 8.3 µg/L for the dissolved fraction of the cadmium concentration. However, municipal supply limitations are imposed using a total cadmium standard that is assigned based on primary drinking water standards. Given the primary drinking water standard of 5 µg/l for total cadmium, which includes dissolved cadmium plus suspended cadmium-containing material and organo-cadmium complexes, the 5 µg/l effluent limitation has been incorporated as a cumulative and conservative discharge allowance that accommodates Maggie Creek water quality standards designated in NAC445A.1496.

**Iron:** Limitation based on the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Aquatic Life Standard, NAC 445A.1236.

**Mercury:** The monthly requirement is based on the more restrictive aquatic life criteria standards, both acute (1.4 µg/l) and chronic (0.77 µg/l) designated in Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, U.S.E.P.A. “Quality Criteria for Water” (dissolved fraction), NAC 445A.1236, rather than the Secondary Drinking Water Standard of 2.0 µg/l, as required by the previous permit. The annual requirement to confirm the laboratory detection limit of 0.012 µg/l is removed. Aquatic life standards are established below readily or commonly available laboratory reporting detection limits or practical quantitation limits, and historical data confirms that detectable levels of mercury in the discharge are below the 0.012 µg/l detection limit.

**Selenium:** Limitation based on the Standards for Toxic Materials Applicable to Designated Waters, Aquatic Life Standard, NAC 445A.1236.

**Total Phosphorus as P:** Limitation based on beneficial uses and standard set in NAC 445A.1496. The limit is applied to Total Phosphorus. The previous permit limit of 1.0 mg/l was applied to ortho-phosphorus.

**Dissolved Oxygen:** Limitation based on beneficial uses and standard set in NAC 445A.1496 for aquatic life standards.

**Hardness:** Requirement established for comparative analyses purposes that evaluate NAC445A.1496 for specific aquatic life standards.

**Profile I:** Requirement established to annually validate adequate definition and maintenance of appropriate and applicable discharge limitations for inorganic species.

**Temperature:** Limitation based on the water quality standard for Maggie Creek in a

reach without trout. The standard limiting discharge temperatures within 3 °C of the natural receiving water temperature is irrelevant when considering: (1) the water quality standard for maximum discharge temperature to a water body without trout is 34 °C, in which case, a 3 °C temperature fluctuation is negligible; (2) the natural range of temperatures in Maggie Creek is highly varied between 0.5 °C and 25 °C and the use of even best available technology is unlikely to achieve a discharge temperature as low as 3.5 °C; and (3) the Creek is often dry.

Narrative Standards applied under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) that consider the natural, background condition of a receiving water body effectively disqualify the logical application of a limitation requiring no more than a “3 °C change in temperature”. Consequently, the discharge of groundwater from dewatering of the Gold Quarry pit should not necessarily be subject to the application of the relative temperature standard listed under criteria for Maggie Creek found in NAC 445A.1496. Furthermore, since the Gold Quarry discharge often constitutes the primary or predominant flow contribution to the Creek, particularly when it is dry, the discharge temperature of the Creek effectively becomes the natural condition. As long as the discharge temperature remains below 34° C, the discharge to Maggie Creek maintains overall compliance with the Maggie Creek temperature standard, and downstream monitoring will be continued to confirm the long-term absence of discernible adverse impact to the environment.

Water quality in the Humboldt River may also be subject to temperature impacts from the Gold Quarry discharge. However, it has been observed that discharge temperatures from mine dewatering fluctuate in a range that is relatively similar to those observed in the Humboldt River, and although flow patterns between the discharge and affected waters cannot be directly correlated, it is reasonable to assume that seasonal conditions affect the discharge, Maggie Creek, and the Humboldt River similarly. Consequently, the net impact of discharge temperature on the Humboldt River should be attenuated by the effects of relative flow and mixing, both with water from Maggie Creek, as well as, water from the Humboldt River.

The specific water quality standard for temperature in the Humboldt River at the Palisade Gage allows a temperature change of 2 °C, NAC 445A.1438. This tolerance standard has been directly applied, requiring monitoring at locations upstream and downstream of the confluence of Maggie Creek with the Humboldt River, and because integrated flow and mixing should dampen any temperature discrepancies, compliance at the downstream monitoring location is considered reasonable.

**Total Dissolved Solids:** Limitation is based on the water quality standards for Maggie Creek, with monitoring required to ensure that the Humboldt River water quality is not degraded by the discharge and confluence with Maggie Creek. Using TDS concentration data reflecting conditions in Maggie Creek between 2007 and 2012, the average TDS concentration for the 5 years that the Creek was actually flowing equates to 344.3 mg/l. Given the margin for discharge as the lesser of either the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile or 500 mg/l, the appropriate discharge limitation is re-established to be a single value of 444.42 mg/l (rounded to 445 mg/l).

TDS concentrations in the Gold Quarry discharge also have the potential to impact water quality in the Humboldt River. The TDS water quality standard in the Humboldt River dictates an annual average concentration of less than or equal to ( $\leq$ ) 350 mg/l at the Palisade Gage monitoring station (downstream of the Maggie Creek/Humboldt River confluence); however, narrative standards allow some flexibility given elevated background TDS concentrations in the river. Therefore, TDS concentrations at the “gate” monitoring station (compliance point J) have been limited to an annual average of  $\leq$  350 mg/l or an annual average of equal to or less than the concentration at the monitoring location in the Humboldt River, upstream from the confluence with Maggie Creek (background sampling point F).

**Whole Effluent Toxicity Testing:** Acute toxicity testing using a 96-hour fathead minnow percent survival test has been added to the permit conditions to verify the cumulative effects of the discharge on aquatic life. The chemical characteristics of the discharge are generally consistent with permit limitations and water quality standards; however, some water quality standards, i.e. mercury, are simply too low to analytically quantify. As an alternative, the Division regards the implementation of acute toxicity testing as an adequate method to confirm the inconsequential effects of the discharge on aquatic life in both Maggie Creek and the Humboldt River.

**Total Suspended Solids:** The limitation for total suspended solids (TSS) has been removed. There is no clear water quality standard for TSS in Maggie Creek, and historical data on file consistently confirm low discharge TSS concentrations (typically around 5 mg/l). Because the discharge is groundwater, there is no reason to expect increases in discharge TSS concentrations, and by the time the discharge flows approximately 6 miles downstream to reach the Humboldt River, low TSS concentrations that may have contributed to Maggie Creek are not likely to measurably persist.

### **Changes from Previous Permit:**

**Mercury:** For monthly sampling this permit uses the more restrictive chronic aquatic life standard of 0.77  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , and acute aquatic life standard of 1.4  $\mu\text{g/l}$  as permit limits, rather than the previous permit limit of 2.0  $\mu\text{g/l}$ , the Federal MCL and Primary Drinking Water Standard. This permit also corrects a technical error in the limit. The previous permit required annual confirmation of laboratory detection levels and assigned a numeric standard equal to the minimum reportable detection limit of 0.012  $\mu\text{g/l}$ ; this should only be used for detection limit comparisons, not as an absolute water quality limitation in the permit. That permit requirement has been removed.

**Schedule of Compliance:** The Permittee shall implement and comply with the provisions of the schedule of compliance after approval by the Administrator, including in said implementation and compliance, any additions or modifications which the Administrator may make in approving the schedule of compliance:

- The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the discharge limitations upon issuance of the permit.

- Within 90 days of permit renewal issuance (By **MM DD**, 2012), the Permittee shall submit to the Division for review and approval two copies of a revised Operations and Maintenance Manual covering the dewatering system, arsenic treatment system, discharge system and sampling and monitoring protocols.

**Proposed Determination:** The Division has made the tentative determination to renew the proposed permit for a period of five (5) years.

**Procedures for Public Comment:** The Notice of the Division’s intent to renew a NPDES permit authorizing the Permittee to discharge groundwater to Maggie Creek and Maggie Creek Reservoir, tributary to the Humboldt River, for a five-year period subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Reno Gazette Journal** and to the **Elko Daily Free Press** for publication. The Notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted (via postmarked mail or time-stamped faxes, e-mails, or hand-delivered items) to the Division is **July 2, 2012 by 5:00 P.M.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

Prepared by: Jeryl R. Gardner, P.E.  
Date: May 2012