



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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 9/9/2013

Deadline for Appeal: 10/9/2013

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Big Springs Project**, 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 **NEV0087001** (Permit) is:

AngloGold Ashanti (Nevada) Corporation
460 W. Silver St. Suite 106
Elko, NV 89801

The facility is located in approximately 60 miles north of the town of Elko, in Elko County. The heap, mill site, and tailings impoundment are located at the eastern base of the Independence Mountains within Sections 33 and 34 of Township 43 North, Range 54 East; and Sections 3 and 4, Township 42 North, Range 54 East. The pits and waste rock dumps are located approximately 2 miles due west of the mill site, in the Independence Mountains, along the North Fork of the Humboldt River, in Sections 1,2,3,10,11, and 12 Township 42 North, Range 53 East. All Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian.

The project is in post-closure. The operation was a conventional open pit gold mine with ore processing by both milling and heap leach cyanidation with precious metal recovery by carbon adsorption. The mill site consisted of one heap leach pad, two process ponds, one stormwater control pond, one process solution overflow pond, one tailings storage facility (TSF), and one TSF reclaim pond. The mill site facilities are located on private land. The mill and all buildings have been removed. All non-essential ponds have been reclaimed. The pits and waste rock dumps are located on public lands.

The Administrator is constrained to either renew the Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to renew the Permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the Permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to NAC 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery or US Postal Service, or by facsimile or e-mail transmittal, no later

than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal end date 9 October 2013) to: Division of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701-5249

All comments, objections, or requests received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding the 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 Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 445A.665. For more information, contact Kurt F. Kolbe at (775) 687-9405 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>