



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

## FACTSHEET (pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee Name:** ROCKWOOD LITHIUM INC.  
PO BOX 98  
SILVER PEAK, NV - 89047

**Permit Number:** NS2013501

**Location:** ROCKWOOD LITHIUM INC. SILVER PEAK OPERATIONS, ESMERALDA  
PO BOX 98, SILVER PEAK, NV - 89047  
LATITUDE: 37.752701, LONGITUDE: -117.636608  
TOWNSHIP: T2S, RANGE: R39E, SECTION: S22

Outfall / Well Num	Outfall / Well Name	Location Type	Well Log Num	Outfall City	Outfall State	Outfall Zip	Outfall County	Latitude	Longitude	Receiving Water
001	UPPER TRAILER COURT (10,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.748611	-117.646667	GROUNDWATER
002	LOWER TRAILER COURT (7,500 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.750556	-117.641389	GROUNDWATER
003	PROCESSING PLANT (2,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.751667	-117.639444	GROUNDWATER
004	SWIMMING POOL (1,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.751944	-117.636944	GROUNDWATER
005	MAINTENANCE SHOP (1,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.753333	-117.64	GROUNDWATER
006	OFFICE/LAB (2,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.750741	-117.638611	GROUNDWATER
007	AUTO SHOP (1,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.751389	-117.640278	GROUNDWATER
008	ADMIN BLDG (1,000 GAL)	External Outfall		SILVERPEAK	NV	89047	ESMERALDA	37.7825	-117.533889	GROUNDWATER

### General:

Rockwood Lithium Inc. (Rockwood), formerly Chemetall Foote Corp., is proposing to install a new 1,000 gallon septic tank at their Silver Peak Operations in Esmeralda County, Nevada. The mine site is located approximately 28 miles southwest of the town of Tonopah on mining claims held by Rockwood. Lithium is mined through a brine aquifer pumping and evaporative concentration process. The new Onsite Sewage Disposal System (OSDS) is required to manage the domestic sewage demands of a new administrative building. Following installation, Rockwood will operate a total of eight on-site septic tank systems as outlined above. The existing septic tanks at this facility were previously operated under NDEP general permit GNEV9201-40018.

### Discharge Characteristics:

This permit will authorize the discharge of OSDS treated domestic wastewater to groundwater of the State via percolation in absorption trenches. The discharge of toxic, hazardous, or industrial waste materials to any permitted OSDS is strictly prohibited.

### Receiving Water:

Groundwater of the State of Nevada via percolation in absorption trenches.

### Summary of Changes From Previous Permit:

This is a new permit.

**Proposed Effluent Limitations:**

The Permittee shall monitor the depth of sludge, scum, and total liquids in all septic tanks annually. Septic tanks shall be pumped when the combined scum and sludge depth is equal to or greater than 50% of the total liquid depth.

In lieu of the monitoring requirement, the Permittee may submit documentation each year showing that the septic tanks have been pumped.

**Rationale for Permit Requirements:**

To monitor the working capacity of the individual septic tanks.

**Special Conditions:**

The Permittee shall operate the facility in compliance with permit provisions and requirements and in accordance with the Division-approved Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual. The O&M Manual shall contain the information required to comply with this permit.

SA – Special Approvals / Conditions Table

Item #	Description
1	The septic tank treatment and disposal systems shall be used only for the treatment of domestic sewage. Domestic sewage is defined in NAC 445A.9532 and means any liquid and water-borne waste that is derived from the ordinary living process and is of such a character as to permit its satisfactory disposal into a public sewer or an on-site sewage disposal system without special treatment. The term does not include industrial waste. The discharge of toxic, hazardous, industrial, or laboratory waste material to any permitted OSDS is strictly prohibited.
2	The Permittee shall conduct regular and routine inspections and maintenance in accordance with the Division-approved O&M Manual.
3	The Permittee shall submit an Annual Large-Capacity Septic System Evaluation Report to the Division on or before January 28th of each year. The depth of scum, sludge, and total liquid in all septic tanks shall be measured annually and reported as the annual report. Measurements may be made at any time during the 12 month reporting period. <sup>[1]</sup>
4	Septic tank(s) shall be pumped by a licensed septage hauler whenever the combined depth of scum and sludge equals or exceeds 50% of the total liquid depth, or more frequently as necessary to maintain efficient solids removal. The date, tank number, volume of septage removed, and the name of the septage hauler shall be maintained on-site in accordance with Part A.11. of the permit. Sludge disposal shall be in accordance with applicable regulations.
5	The rated treatment capacity of each septic tank shall not be exceeded.
6	Surfacing of any substance from a septic system is strictly prohibited.
7	All leachfields shall be posted. Vehicular traffic and the movement of heavy equipment over the leachfields shall be prevented.

Notes (Special Approvals / Conditions Table):

1. In lieu of this requirement, the Permittee may submit documentation showing that the septic tank(s) have been pumped within the previous 12 months.

**Flow:**

The combined capacity of all septic tanks at this facility will be 25,500 gallons.

**Corrective Action Sites:**

There are no NDEP Bureau of Corrective Actions remediation sites within a one mile radius of this facility.

**Wellhead Protection Program:**

One OSDS (Outfall 001) at this facility is located within the 6,000-foot Drinking Water Protection Areas established for two public water supply wells. A Wellhead Protection Area has not been established.

**Schedule of Compliance:**

SOC – Schedule of Compliance Table

Item #	Description	Due Date
1	The Permittee shall submit two (2) copies of a septic system Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Manual for review and approval by the Division. The O&M Manual shall be prepared by a Nevada Registered Professional Engineer or other qualified person. <sup>[1]</sup>	7/28/2013

Notes (Schedule of Compliance Table):

- O&M Manuals prepared by Nevada Registered Professional Engineers must be signed and stamped in accordance with NAC 625.610.

**Deliverable Schedule:**

DLV– Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals

Item #	Description	Interval	First Scheduled Due Date
1	Annual Large-Capacity Septic System Evaluation Report (Annual Report) <sup>[1]</sup>	Annually	1/28/2014

Notes (Deliverable Schedule for Reports, Plans, and Other Submittals):

- A copy of the Annual Large-Capacity Septic System Evaluation Report form is included with the permit.

**Procedures for Public Comment:**

The Notice of the Division's intent to reissue a permit authorizing the facility to discharge to groundwater of the State of Nevada subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Reno Gazette Journal and Tonopah Times-Bonanza & Goldfield News** 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 until 5:00 P.M. **7/29/2013**, a period of 30 days following the date of the public notice. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX 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 determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted to accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.650.

**Proposed Determination:**

The Division has made the tentative determination to issue / re-issue the proposed 5-year permit.

Prepared by: **Arthur Marr III**

Date: **6/18/2013**

Title: **P.E.**