



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: 08/21/2014

Deadline for Comment: 09/20/2014

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for the Major Modification of a Water Pollution Control Permit (Permit) for the **Smoky Valley Common Operation** has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for the Major Modification of Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV0087052** is:

**Round Mountain Gold Corporation
Smoky Valley Common Operation
P.O. Box 480
Round Mountain, Nevada 89045-0480**

The facility is located on both public and private land in Nye County, within Sections 1, 2, and 3, Township 9 North, Range 43 East; Sections 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 34, 35, and 36, Township 10 North, Range 43 East; Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, and 31, Township 10 North, Range 44 East; Section 6 Township 9 North, Range 44 East; Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 60 miles northeast of Tonopah, Nevada.

The project consists of an open pit mining and chemical beneficiation facility, designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 110,000,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of mine, mill, heap leach pads, tailings impoundment, ponds, and wells. The Major Modification adds a second tailings impoundment and expands existing pond capacity. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

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

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Permit modification, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the Permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery or US Postal Service, or by facsimile or e-mail transmittal (with the original to be received within five (5) days of

transmittal date), no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (publication date 21 August 2014, comment period end date 20 September 2014) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 South Stewart Street, Room 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control 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 Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Rob Kuczynski, P.E. at (775) 687-9441, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>