



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

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 12/11/2014

Deadline for Comment: 01/10/2015

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) gives notice that an application for a new Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Atocha Mill Site**, a mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The Applicant for Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV2014113** (Permit) is:

**Matthew Moroney
Atocha Mill Site
HC 71 Box 3014
Goldfield, NV 89013**

The Atocha Mill Site is located on public land in Esmeralda County, within Section 10, Township 07 South, Range 41-1/2 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian (MDBM). The process facility is located approximately 2,000 feet southeast of the Gold Point town center. The mining area is located 3.4 miles past the Atocha Mill Site on an unnamed dirt road to the southeast, within Section 19, Township 7 South, Range 42 East, MDBM, in Esmeralda County, Nevada.

The Project consists of a surface mine (placer) and physical gravity separation facility, pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.350 through 445A.447, designed to extract gold from alluvial material, with a maximum permitted production rate of up to 10,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of a mine, gravity separation facility and settling pond. No chemicals are authorized for use in the extraction process. 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 Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue 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 10 January 2015) 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 Joe Sawyer (775) 687-9406 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>.