



# 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: 01/08/2015**

**Deadline for Comment: 02/09/2015**

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) gives notice that an application for a new Discharge Permit for the **Spring Valley Exploration Project**, an exploration drilling project has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The Applicant for Discharge Permit **NEV2014119** (Permit) is:

**Barrick Gold Exploration Inc.  
293 Spruce Road  
Elko, NV 89801**

The Project and outfalls are located on public and private land in Pershing County, within Sections 22, 23, 25 through 29, and 32 through 36, Township 29 North (T29N), Range 34 East (R34E), and Sections 1 through 5 and 8 through 11, T28N, R34E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, about 21 miles northeast of the town of Lovelock, Nevada.

The Project is a gold exploration drilling program discharging up to 72,000 gallons per day of spent drilling cuttings and fluid into constructed sumps for sedimentation and clarification. Decant water meeting background groundwater quality or drinking water standards is allowed to infiltrate to groundwater. Discharge to surface water is prohibited except during storm events when it cannot be reasonably prevented. At least 41 temporary drill pads and collection sumps are proposed for construction during the exploration program. All drill sites will be reclaimed following completion of the Project.

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 Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery, US Postal Service, facsimile, or e-mail transmittal, no later than 5:00 PM on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the date of publication of this notice (publication date 08 January 2015, submittal end date 09 February 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.238.

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 Shawn Gooch at (775) 687-9557 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>.