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Water Pollution Control
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Mining Regulation & Reclamation
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State of Nevada
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

March 2, 2005

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of the Water Pollution Control Permit for the BIG SPRINGS MINE, 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 is:

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

The Big Springs Mine is located in Elko County, approximately 60 miles north of the town of Elko, on both public and private lands. The mill processing site is 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 mine itself is located approximately 2 miles due west of the mill processing site, in the Independence Mountains, along the North Fork of the Humboldt River (NFHR), in Sections 1,2,3,10,11, and 12 Township 42 North, Range 53 East - all Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian.

This facility, now entering into permanent post-closure, consisted of both heap and milling operations and was designed to extract gold with a maximum permitted production rate of 500,000 tons of ore per year. The facility was comprised of one mill, one heap leach pad, one tailings storage facility, process ponds, open pits, rock disposal areas, access roads, and wells.

Except for excess accumulations that are a result of a storm event beyond that required by design for containment, the process components must operate under a standard of performance that authorizes a discharge to the environment only through two subsurface infiltration fields. The Administrator is constrained to issue the renewed Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed Water Pollution Control 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 Chapter 445A, must submit

their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (March 3, 2005) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
333 West Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

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 Kurt Kolbe at 775-687-9405 or toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov.bmrr/bmrr01.html>.