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Administration
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Water Pollution Control
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Mining Regulations & Reclamation
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KENNY C. GUINN
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Waste Management
Corrective Actions
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Air Quality
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Hollister Development Block Infiltration Project**, a water management facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV2003114** is:

Hecla Ventures Corporation
Hollister Development Block Infiltration Project
P.O. Box 2610
Winnemucca, Nevada 89446

The facility, known as the Hollister Development Block Infiltration Project, is located in portions of Section 33, Township 37 North, Range 48 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 46 air- miles northwest of the town of Elko, in northwest Elko County, Nevada.

The project consists of an HDPE pipeline used to gravity convey dewatering water discharged from the Hollister Development Block Project (Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2003107) exploration decline and underground workings to a pair of rapid infiltration basins (RIBs). The proposed permit will authorize a maximum discharge of 999,999 gallons per day of dewatering water to the RIBs. Groundwater quality is monitored with one (1) upgradient and two (2) downgradient water quality monitoring wells and the infiltration mound is monitored with six (6) piezometer wells. The facility is protected from the 100-year, 24-hour storm event by an engineered diversion ditch. 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 issue the Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the permit.

Note: This letter is for electronic distribution.

Persons wishing to comment upon 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 the 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 29, 2004) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
Capitol Complex
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 Miles Shaw at (775) 687-9409, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>