



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Notice of Intent

May 11, 2006

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a Reclamation Permit for a Mining Operation for the Argenta Mine and Mill has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for Permit #0252 is:

**Baker Hughes Oilfield Operations, Inc.
dba Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids
P. O. Box 277
Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820**

This project, will be located within Lander County, and is in portions of Sections 13 and 24, Township 32 North, Range 46 East, and portions of Sections 6, 18 and 19, Township 32 North, Range 47 East, M.D.M., approximately thirteen miles from the community of Battle Mountain, Nevada. The mine and mill produce barite and the facility has been in operation for over twenty-five years. This permit is issued pursuant to NAC 519A regulations.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the reclamation permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the reclamation permit.

Persons wishing to submit written comments or information on the tentative decision, must do so in writing no later than by 5 PM on June 16, 2006. Any person who is directly affected by the application for a permit may request, in writing, a public hearing on the application for a permit. The request must state the reason for the request and the issues to be raised at the hearing. This request must be submitted, in writing, no later than by 5 PM on June 16, 2006.

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 S. Stewart St. Ste 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this application. If the Division determines written comments or requests are reasonable and indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 519A.200. The Division will accept written comments in the form of facsimile, e-mail, or by mail. The comments may also be hand delivered.

The permit application and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS Chapter 239.010. For more information contact Richard Gantt at (775) 687-9410, or toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, select option 2 for State Operator, then ask for 687-9410 or visit the Bureau's website at <http://ndep.state.nv.us/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>.