



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

Web posting 10/13/09

by the
State of Nevada
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Air Quality Planning

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 445B and the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445B, the Division of Environmental Protection is issuing the following notice.

The Administrator has received an application for a new Nevada Mercury Operating Permit to Construct from the following applicant:

*Barrick Cortez, Inc.
Cortez Pipeline Mine
HC 66 Box 1250
Crescent Valley, NV 89821-1250*

The Administrator has prepared tentative determinations regarding the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct (MOPTC) that, in brief, affect the following: a system consisting of two new mercury retorts and two existing smelt furnaces.

The draft MOPTC proposes a mercury emissions performance standard and mercury emissions control technologies determined to be NvMACT pursuant to NAC 445B.3683.2(b). Determination of initial proposed NvMACT mercury emissions performance for the system is: 9.2×10^{-4} gr/dscf mercury. The final NvMACT mercury emissions limit shall be determined pursuant to an emissions control performance demonstration period. Determination of proposed NvMACT mercury emissions control technology for the system is: chilled-water condensers for the retorts, a shared baghouse for the furnaces, and a sulfur impregnated carbon bed that will be shared by all four units in the system.

The tentative MOPTC activities include monitoring, recordkeeping, annual stack testing for mercury emissions, annual emissions reporting, annual mercury co-product reporting, limits of operation, and work practice standards which minimize emissions of mercury to the atmosphere. The permit also includes a mercury emission limit for the system.

On the basis of the preliminary review and the requirements of the NRS and the NAC, the Administrator is hereby announcing his intent to issue the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct based on review of the information, as proposed. A copy of the draft operating permit is available for public inspection at:

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625 SOUTH BROAD ST.
BATTLE MOUNTAIN, NV 89820

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding this proposed action or to request a hearing pursuant to NRS 445B Air Pollution and NAC 445B Air Controls should submit their comments or request in writing either in person or by mail or fax within thirty **(30)** days to:

Rob Bamford
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Air Quality Planning
901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249
(775) 687-9330
(775) 687-6396 FAX

The application, draft permit, any comments received, and other relevant information may be copied at the above address or copies may be obtained by requesting in writing at the above address. Copies of the Director's Review and the draft Mercury Operating Permit to Construct are available for review on the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection-Bureau of Air Quality Planning website at: <http://ndep.nv.gov/baqp/hg/pub.html>. Written comments or objections, will be received at the Division of Environmental Protection, above address, until **November 16, 2009** and will be retained and considered prior to final action on the Mercury Operating Permit to Construct.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know may be interested in this matter.

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