



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Web posting 09/15/2009

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a major modification of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Billie the Kid Project, a mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for modification of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2000109 is:

Plum Mining Company, LLC
P.O. Box 1118
Virginia City, Nevada 89440

The facility is located on public and private land in Storey County, within Sections 5, 6, 7, and 8, Township 16 North, Range 21 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 2 miles west of the town of Gold Hill.

The project consists of open pit mining and a heap leach beneficiation facility designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 720,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of open pit mines, a heap leach pad, lined and leak detected process and overflow ponds, a single-lined overflow pond, engineered waste rock storage facilities, primary, secondary, and tertiary crushers, in-plant leaching, agglomerator, conveyor system, Merrill-Crowe process building, water quality monitoring wells, and associated administrative and operational support infrastructure. 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 either issue the modified Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the modified permit.

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 Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery, United States Postal Service, facsimile, or e-mail no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal deadline October 16, 2009) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

This Document is for Electronic Distribution

901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249

All comments, objections, or requests 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 Paul Eckert on (775) 687-9401 or visit the Bureau of Mining's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm> .

This Document is for Electronic Distribution