



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Acting Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Acting Administrator

Web posting 12/14/2010

Deadline for comment 1/13/11

Notice of Proposed Action

Permit #NEV2005105

Ashdown Project LLC

Ashdown Mine and Morris Mill

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for the renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Ashdown Mine and Morris Mill has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2005105 is:

Ashdown Project LLC
P.O. Box 210
Denio, NV 89404

The facility is located in Humboldt County, within Section 23, T45N, R28E, and Section 14, T45N, R29E, MDB&M, approximately 14 miles south-southwest of Denio Junction, Nevada.

The project consists of processing ore from the Ashdown Mine. Conventional flotation is used to process the molybdenum ore with tailings disposal into a bermed and lined tailings impoundment. The maximum permitted production is 36,500 tons of ore per year and no more than 120,000 tons of ore over the life of the project. The small-scale facility is comprised of an underground mine, waste dump, 200 ton ore stockpile, crushing and grinding circuit, mill and process plant including a flotation circuit, thickener, filter and concentrate bin. Pipelines route tailings to, and return reclaim water from, the tailings impoundment. 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 renewal Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewal 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 end date January 13, 2011) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
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 Rob Kuczynski, P.E. at (775) 687-9441 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr01.htm>.