



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Jim Gibbons, Governor

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

Tom Porta, P.E., Acting Administrator

Web posting 6/29/2010

Deadline for comment 8/2/2010

Notice of Proposed Action

Permit #NEV0085021

Tonkin Springs, LLC

Tonkin Springs Project

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Tonkin Springs Project, a mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0085021 is:

Tonkin Springs, LLC
P.O. Box 2429
Elko, NV 89803

The facility is located on public land in Eureka County, within Township 23.5 North, Range 49 East, Sections 2, 3, and 4, and in Township 24 North, Range 49 East, Sections 20, 21, 27, 28, 29, 32, 33, and 34, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 45 miles northwest of the town of Eureka.

The project consists of open pit mining and a bio-oxidation beneficiation facility, designed to extract primarily gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 1,000,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of mine, mill, heap leach pad, tailings impoundment, ponds, wells, and associated ancillary facilities. All components have been in temporary closure since mining and processing activities were suspended in 1990 and no operation is presently authorized. 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 deadline August 2, 2010) 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 Paul Eckert at (775) 687-9401 or visit the Bureau of Mining's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm> .