



# STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

## Notice of Proposed Action – Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

**Web posting: 10/17/2011**

**Deadline for Comment: 11/17/2011**

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 **North Block 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 **NEV0091029** (Permit) is:

**Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 29**  
**Elko, NV 89801**

The facility is located on public and private land in Elko and Eureka Counties, within Sections 12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, and 25, Township 36 North, Range 49 East, and Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29 and 30, Township 36 North, Range 50 East, MDB&M, approximately 27 miles northwest of the town of Carlin.

The project consists of open pit and underground mining with carbon-in-leach and resin-in-leach beneficiation facilities, designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 22 million tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of mines, mills, leach facilities, tailings impoundments, ponds, wells, waste rock impoundments, ore stockpiles, and ancillary structures. 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 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 major modification to the Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the Permit relating to the proposed modification, 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 or US Postal Service, or by facsimile or e-mail transmittal (with the original to be received within five (5) days of transmittal date), no later than 5:00 PM on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal end date November 17, 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 the 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 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> .