



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Brian Sandoval, Governor

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Colleen Cripps, Ph.D., Administrator

Notice of Proposed Action – Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 12/16/2011

Deadline for Comment: 01/20/2012

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a new **Water Pollution Control Permit (Permit) NEV2011105** for the **Slaven Canyon Mine** has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for the new Permit is:

Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids
P.O. Box 277
Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820

The facility is located in Lander County, within Township 30N, Range 46E, Section 13, MDB&M, approximately 15 miles southeast (by air) from the town of Battle Mountain and 39 miles southwest (by air) from the town of Carlin.

The Slaven Canyon Mine is a barite mining and crushing operation, designed to provide mined barite ore to the applicant's Argenta Mill facility (WPCP NEV0091045). Maximum permitted production rate is up to 200,000 tons of ore per year.

The facility is comprised of surface mines, waste rock facility, crushing plant, barite ore stockpile and loadout areas, a stormwater pond, monitoring wells, administrative and maintenance facilities. No chemicals are used in the process.

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 issue the water pollution control permit, or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to issue the 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 (Publication date December 21, 2011, submittal end date January 20, 2012) 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's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm>