



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

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes. The Administrator has received a complete application for the modification and renewal of groundwater discharge permit NEV00026 from the following applicant:

**Tonopah Public Utilities
P.O. Box 151
Tonopah, NV 89049**

Tonopah Public Utilities (TPU) owns and operates an Advanced Integrated Wastewater Pond System (AIWPS) located in Esmeralda County, 1.75 miles northwest of the town of Tonopah. The AIWPS receives domestic and light commercial wastewater from a population of approximately 2,800 residents and 1,200 service connections. The AIWPS consists of treatment plant headworks, one (1) HDPE lined anaerobic pretreatment pond, and three (3) HDPE lined aerobic facultative ponds. Sludge is discharged to four (4) sand drying beds prior to disposal in a landfill. Treated effluent is currently discharged to eight (8) on-site rapid infiltration basins.

TPU plans improvements to the facility that will further filter and disinfect a portion of the treated effluent for reuse. Phase I of the planned improvements, which have been approved by the Division and are expected to be completed near the end of 2012, will provide reuse Category D reclaimed water for a water truck fill stand located approximately 1 mile east of the existing treatment facility. Phase II improvements, which are not expected to begin construction before the expiration of the renewed permit, will include the export of reclaimed water for local irrigation.

The Division has made the tentative determination to renew the proposed permit for a period of five (5) years.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance, or request a hearing pursuant to the Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty (30) days of the date of newspaper publication, hand-delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on **April 16, 2012**, either in person or by mail to:

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 S. Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701**

Comments and/or hearing requests received via facsimile or e-mail before 5:00 P.M. **April 16, 2012**, will also be accepted. All requests for hearings must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reason(s) why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day comment period will be considered in the formulation of final

determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. The public notice of such hearings will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the public hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

The application, proposed permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Art Marr, P.E., Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9432, or at amarr@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. This notice and the Fact Sheet for this facility are also available on the NDEP website at www.ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons who may be interested in this matter.