



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

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action in accordance with the Clean Water Act and Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS). The Administrator has received a complete application for renewal of a NPDES Permit, NV0022675, for discharge from:

**Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc.
P.O. Box 29
Elko, NV 89803**

The Applicant owns and operates an open-pit gold mining and milling facility 27 miles north of Carlin, in Eureka County, Nevada. The Applicant has requested continued authorization to discharge treated groundwater withdrawn from mine dewatering wells to the Humboldt River via pipelines, lined canals, Whitehouse Ditch, and Rock Creek at a maximum rate of 110.0 million gallons per day (MGD) and a maximum thirty-day average of 100.8 MGD from the Boulder Valley Treatment Plant. The primary discharge point to the Humboldt River is located in Eureka County, approximately three miles west of Dunphy, Nevada. This discharge will consist of groundwater that, after treatment to reduce total dissolved solids, boron, and fluoride concentrations, and temperature, will meet all appropriate Humboldt River water quality standards. While the Applicant has not discharged to the Humboldt under this permit since February 1999, monitoring is required to ensure that the water in the Humboldt River is not degraded by this potential discharge.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance, or request a hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, Water Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request, in writing, within thirty days of the date of newspaper publication, hand-delivered or postmarked no later than **5:00 P.M. on January 8, 2013**, either in person or by mail to:

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

Comments and/or hearing requests received via facsimile or e-mail before **5:00 P.M. January 8, 2013** 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 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 Jeryl Gardner, P.E., Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9423, or at jgardner@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 foregoing notice to the attention of all persons who may be interested in this matter.