



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 FINAL DECISION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 02/15/2013

Deadline for Appeal: 02/25/2013

Railroad Exploration Project Reclamation Permit No. 0340 Gold Standard Ventures Corporation

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (Division) has decided to issue Reclamation Permit No. 0340 (Permit), for an exploration project to Gold Standard Ventures Corporation (Permittee). This Permit authorizes the Permittee to reclaim the Railroad Exploration project. This Project is located in Elko County, Nevada approximately 13 miles south of the town of Carlin. The Division has been provided with an application, in accordance with Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 519A to assure the Division that the Permittee will leave the project site safe, stable, and capable of providing for a productive post-mining land use.

This Permit will become final on Saturday March 2, 2013. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission (Commission) pursuant to NAC 519A.415. The appeal must be filed by Monday, February 25, 2013 on SEC Form No. 3 and in accordance with administrative rules of the Commission.

The Permit authorizes 50-acres of exploration disturbance on private lands and public lands administrated by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). One comment letter was received during the public comment period from the Nevada Department of Wildlife. The comments in the letter and the Division responses are paraphrased below;

1. The reclamation seed list identified by the Permittee is consistent with vegetation in the vicinity of the project area. The reclamation seed mix selected by the Permittee from this list should contain enough shrub, forb and grass diversity to create a post exploration site that will be suitable for wildlife resources in the vicinity.

Division Response: The seed mix in the Reclamation Plan and the Environmental Assessment (EA) specifies 15 pounds of pure live seed per acre of various shrubs, forb and grasses. These documents also specify the application rate of individual species

2. Efforts to salvage as much topsoil as possible should be encouraged. The Permittee should include provisions to contour the mining disturbance to the natural slope of the surrounding terrain.

Division Response: The Reclamation Plan identifies re-contouring disturbed areas to blend with surrounding topography. The Division does not regulate the method used by operators to establish healthy and diverse revegetation such as the salvage of topsoil. However, the Division will encourage the Permittee to salvage and reapply native topsoil as much as feasible.