NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION – Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 7/26/2013

Deadline for Comment: 8/26/2013

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 **Mooney Basin 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 **NEV0098100** (Permit) is:

Barrick Gold U.S., Inc. – Bald Mountain Mine
P.O. Box 2706
Elko, NV 89803

The facility is located on public and private land in White Pine County, Township 23 North, Range 58 East, Sections 5, 6 and 7; Township 24 North, Range 57 East, Sections 25 and 36; Township 24 North, Range 58 East, Sections 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32; and, Township 23 North, Range 57 East, Section 1, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 80 miles northwest of the town of Ely.

The project consists of an open pit mining and cyanide heap leach beneficiation facility, designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 20 million tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of mine, heap leach pads, carbon columns, ponds, wells, and ancillary structures. The major modification consists of the addition of a new heap leach pad and two process ponds. 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 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 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 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal end date 26 August 2013) 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 Nevada Revised Statutes 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 .