



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 - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 02/20/2013

Deadline for Appeal: 03/20/2013

Blossom Mine Project
WPC Permit No. NEV2012113

Searchlight Mining Company, LLC

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for a new Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Blossom Mine Project**, a surface and underground mining facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for the new Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV2012113** is:

Searchlight Mining Company, LLC
Blossom Mine Project
P.O. Box 209
Searchlight, NV 89046

The facility is located on private land in Clark County, within Township 28 South, Range 63 East, Sections 14, 15, 22, and 23 Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian (MDB&M), approximately 1.5 miles north of the town of Searchlight.

The project consists of a surface and underground mining facility, designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of **36,499 tons** of ore per year for processing at the adjacent Coyote Mine (Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0094113). The Blossom Mine Project is comprised of mine and stockpile pads, and wells. No chemicals are authorized for use at the site. 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 new Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the new 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 February 20, 2013 and submittal deadline March 20, 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 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 Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 445A.665. For more information, contact Rob Kuczynski, P.E. at (775) 687-9441.