



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

Posting Date: 5/28/2013

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 and/or the Clean Water Act, where applicable. The Administrator has received an application for a Manufacturing, Commercial, Mining and Silvicultural facility that discharges NON-PROCESS Wastewater, permit number NV0021725 from the following applicant:

NEWMONT MINING CORP. - TWIN CREEKS MINE
P.O. BOX 69
GOLCONDA, NV - 89414

Permit NV0021725, TWIN CREEKS MINE:

The Applicant proposes to increase the permitted discharge at Twin Creeks Mine from a daily maximum of 14.4 million gallons per day (MGD) to 19.872 MGD of treated water produced from mine dewatering wells and sumps located within the open pit. The pumped groundwater is treated to remove arsenic to a concentration below the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.1236 municipal or domestic supply water standard, 0.050 milligrams per liter. The Applicant discharges to the Humboldt River via Rabbit and Kelly Creeks. The discharge to Rabbit Creek, an ephemeral drainage, is approximately four miles upstream of the confluence with Kelly Creek. The Humboldt River is approximately eighteen miles downstream of the confluence of Rabbit and Kelly Creeks. The Nevada Division of Water Resources has restricted the annual average discharge to the Humboldt River to 2 cubic feet per second (1.3 MGD). The majority of the discharge seeps to the alluvial aquifer before reaching the Humboldt. Monitoring of the discharge is conducted to ensure that waters of the State are not degraded as a result of the discharge. The facility has constructed a new treatment pond, and added an additional outfall, but overall total discharge rate remains at 19.872 MGD; this change requires a major modification to the permit.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue Permit NV0021725 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

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 07/01/2013, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the 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 applications, proposed permits, 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 Michele Reid, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9434 or at mreid@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website: <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.