

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 04/13/2016

Deadline for Comment: 05/13/2016

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Cortez Gold Mine Project**, a former mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV0000023** is:

**Cortez Joint Venture dba Cortez Gold Mines
HC66 Box 1250
Crescent Valley, Nevada 89821-1250**

The facility is located on public and private land in east-central Lander County, within Sections 12, 13, and 24, Township 27 North (T27N), Range 47 East (R47E), Sections 18, 19, and 30, T27N, R48E, and Sections 9 and 10, T26N, R48E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 62 miles southwest of the town of Elko, Nevada.

Active mining ceased in 1999 and the project is in permanent closure. The project originally consisted of open pit mines, waste rock storage facilities, conventional cyanide heap leach pads, carbon columns, a carbon-in-leach mill, tailings impoundments, and a circulating fluid bed (refractory ore) roaster. The facility is currently comprised of inactive open pits, closed and reclaimed heap leach pads, closed and reclaimed tailings impoundments, draindown collection systems, monitoring wells, and remediation pumpback systems. The roaster and mill buildings were removed in 2014.

The Administrator is constrained to either issue the renewed Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed 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 (submittal end date 13 May 2016) 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 NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Lisa Kreskey at (775) 687-9415 or visit the Bureau of Mining's website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/index.htm>.