

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation**

**Web Posting: 09/21/2016**

**Deadline for Comment: 10/21/2016**

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) gives notice that an application for a renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Cove Helen Underground Exploration Project**, a 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 **NEV2010102** (Permit) is:

**Au-Reka Gold Corporation  
Cove Helen Underground Exploration Project  
2080 East Frontage Road  
Battle Mountain, NV 89820**

The facility is located on public land in Lander County, within Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12, Township 28 North, Range 42 East (T28N, R42E), Sections 5-8, T28N, R43E, Sections 25, 26, 35, and 36, T29N, R42E, and Sections 30 and 31, T29E, R43E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 32 miles southwest of the town of Battle Mountain.

The Project consists of an underground mining facility, pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.394 designed to extract gold, with a maximum permitted production rate of 100,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of underground mine and portal area, dewatering collection sump and water conveyance pipeline; single-lined waste rock storage basin, ore stockpile basin, solution collection and conveyance channels; a double-lined, evaporation basin with a dedicated leak detection, collection, and recovery system; single-lined dewatering water conveyance channel and an engineered water treatment plant; associated collection, conveyance systems, pipelines, pumps, valves, and associated equipment for the containment or control of fluids; and other ancillary facilities and stormwater diversion structures for the above components. 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 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 Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the Permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to NAC 445A.403, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery or US Postal Service, or by facsimile or e-mail transmittal, no later than 5:00 PM on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal end date 21 October 2016) to:

Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, NV 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 Statute 445A.665. For more information, contact Michelle Griffin at (775) 687-9405 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/index.htm>.