

STATE OF NEVADA
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Water Pollution Control Permit

Permittee: **Newmont USA Limited
Mule Canyon Mine
6900 East Layton Ave
Denver, CO 80237**

Permit Number: **NEV0094110**
Review Type/Year/Revision: **Renewal 2024, Revision 00**

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 445A.300 through 445A.730, inclusive, and regulations promulgated thereunder by the State Environmental Commission and implemented by the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division), this Permit authorizes the Permittee to close the **Mule Canyon Mine**, in accordance with the limitations, requirements, and other conditions set forth in this Permit. The Permittee is not authorized to mine or process ore. The Permittee was previously authorized to process between 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 tons per year.

The facility is located on public and private land in Lander County, within Sections 1-5, 8-17, Township 31 North (T31N), Range 47 East (R47E), and Sections 32 - 34, Township 32 North (T32N), Range 47 East (R47E), Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 14 miles southeast of the town of Battle Mountain, Nevada.

The Permittee must comply with all terms and conditions of this Permit and all applicable statutes and regulations.

This Permit is based on the assumption that the information submitted in the Final Permanent Closure Plan, dated December 2010, and the Permit renewal application dated 26 November 2018, as modified by subsequent approved amendments, are accurate and that the facility is being closed as specified. The Permittee must inform the Division of any deviation from, or changes in, the information in the closure plan and application, which may affect the ability of the Permittee to comply with applicable regulations or Permit conditions.

This Permit is effective as of **XX March 2026**, and shall remain in effect until **27 March 2029**, unless modified, suspended, or revoked.

Signed this _____ day of **March 2026**.

Ashley Taylor, P.E.
Chief, Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

I. Specific Facility Conditions and Limitations

A. In accordance with operating, closure, and facility design plans reviewed and approved by the Division the Permittee shall:

1. Construct, operate, and close the facility in accordance with those plans;
2. Contain within the fluid management system all process fluids including all meteoric waters which enter the system as a result of a 100-year, 24-hour storm event. Any new process components or material modifications of existing process components shall be designed to contain all process fluids including all meteoric waters which enter the system as a result of the 500-year, 24-hour event; and
3. Not release or discharge any process or non-process contaminants from the fluid management system except as approved by the Division in accordance with this Permit and any associated plans, reports, studies, and designs.

B. Schedule of Compliance:

1. Within **ninety (90) days** of the permit effective date, submit for Division review and approval, and thereafter implement upon approval, an operation plan that includes a pit lake treatment plan designed to increase the South pit lake pH to circumneutral conditions.
2. Within **ninety (90) days** of the permit effective date, submit a workplan that continues investigating elevated sulfate concentrations in well WMU-1901A with potential influence from MD-2.
3. By **16 January 2026**, the Permittee shall submit, for review and approval, an update to the site-wide groundwater flow and solute transport model and site-wide pit lake study previously approved in June 2020. The updated study will reflect the current understanding of potential groundwater contamination sources downgradient of Main and South Pits. (01/16/2026 submitted during permit renewal but not reviewed)
4. By **30 September 2026**, submit to the Division, for review and approval, an updated Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for mitigating the groundwater contamination plume downgradient from **Main Pit** and elimination or mitigation of the contaminant source. The CAP shall include delineation, magnitude and extent, of the ground-water plume, elimination or mitigation of the contaminant source, groundwater remediation and monitoring, and a schedule for implementation. The goal of permanent closure of all process components and pollutant sources shall be considered in the plan.
5. By **30 September 2026**, in accordance with a schedule approved in writing by the Division, implement an approved CAP for remediation of the groundwater contaminant plume downgradient from the Main Pit and mitigation or elimination of the contaminant source.
6. By **30 October 2026**, submit to the Division, for review and approval, a CAP for mitigating the groundwater contaminant plume located in the vicinity of the South Pit. The CAP shall include delineation of the magnitude and extent of the groundwater plume, elimination or mitigation of the contaminant source (per the South Pit Lake FPPC), pit lake neutralization, groundwater remediation, monitoring and reporting requirements, and a schedule for implementation. The goal of permanent closure of all process components and pollutant sources shall be incorporated into the plan.
7. By **30 October 2026**, in accordance with a schedule approved in writing by the Division, implement an approved CAP for remediation of the groundwater contaminant plume downgradient from the South Pit and mitigation or elimination of the contaminant source.

8. By **31 December 2026**, the Permittee shall submit, for review and approval, a site-wide Final Plan for Permanent Closure (FPPC) that includes, but not limited to, all facilities (Main Pit, South Pit, North Pit, West Pit, Ashcraft Pit, Northwest Pit, MD-1, MD-2, all associated ponds, etc..)
9. Within **ninety (90) days** of Division approval, implement the work described in the FPPC or, if mining resumes, submit a site-wide TPPC for Division review and approval.
10. By **31 December 2026** submit an FPPC to the Division for review and approval that includes a plan and timeline for permanent closure of the sulfate-reducing bioreactor (SRB). This summary report shall include a discussion of monitoring results, graphed trends, use metrics, and final determination.
11. By **28 April 2027**, submit continuous water-quality monitoring data for all pit lakes. The data shall be used to determine the appropriate depths for surface, mid-depth, and bottom sampling, in accordance with I.D.6, including continuous measurements of field temperature (°F), specific conductance (µS/cm), pH (SU), and oxidation-reduction potential (Eh, mV) with depth (ft).

The schedule of compliance items above are not considered completed until approved in writing by the Division.

- C. The fluid management system covered by this Permit consists of the following process components:
1. Maintenance Shop Sediment Pond (Shop Pond), the Upper MD-1 Waste Rock Storage Facility (WRSF) Collection Pond (MD-1 Pond), and associated leak detection systems;
 2. Solution collection pipes and lined solution collection ditches;
 3. Transfer pipes, valves, and pumps used in conveyance, control or detection of fluids between components; and
 4. Ashcraft Pit Water Collection and Conveyance System (APWCCS) spillway, flume, channels, and all control and measuring devices.
- D. Monitoring Requirements:

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
<p>1. <u>Site Monitoring Wells</u></p> <p>Pit Lake Monitoring Wells: WMU-2A, WMU-2B, WMU-12, MU-1336, MU-1337, MU-1338, MU-1343, MU-1356, MU-1357, MU-1358, MU-1364 (DRY), MU-1365 (DRY), WMU-21, WMU-22, WMU-23, WMU-26, MU-1348, MU-1349 WMU-2303A, and WMU-2303B;</p> <p>Pit Dewatering Pond Wells: MU-1339A, MU-1351, MU-1352B, MU-1354A, MU-1355, MU-1361B, MU-1362, MU-1363, WMU-24, and WMU-25;</p> <p>Main Pit Downgradient Wells: WMU-13R, WMU-1901A, WMU-1901B (DRY), WMU-1902 (DRY), WMU-2301, WMU-2302, and WMU-2304;</p> <p>WMU-15, WMU-18, WMU-19, WMU-20,</p> <p>Pumpback Well: WMU-2001;</p> <p>In-Pit Angle Wells: WMU-2101 and WMU-2102</p>	<p>Profile I⁽¹⁾ and Uranium⁽⁴⁾, water and collar elevations (feet AMSL);</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, water and collar elevations (feet AMSL);</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, water and collar elevations (feet AMSL);</p> <p>Water and collar elevations (feet AMSL), field pH (SU), SC (µS/cm);</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, water and collar elevation (ft. AMSL), gals pumped (gpd)</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, water and collar elevation (ft. AMSL)</p>	<p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly, when used;</p> <p>Quarterly</p>
<p>2. <u>Main Pit Backfill Piezometer</u></p> <p>MU-1341</p>	<p>Hydraulic head (feet), groundwater and collar elevation (feet AMSL)</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>
<p>3. <u>Process Solution</u></p> <p>Maintenance Shop Sediment Pond (Shop Pond), Upper MD-1 WRSF Collection Pond (MD-1 Pond)</p>	<p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, Uranium⁽⁴⁾, pond solution volume (gals) and freeboard (feet)</p>	<p>Semi-annual (2nd and 4th quarters)</p>

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
<p>4. <u>Pond and SRB Leak Detection Sumps</u></p> <p>Shop Pond Leak Detection Sump (SPLDS), MD-1 Pond Leak Detection Sump (MD-1LDS), (106 gal) SRB Settling/Equalization Tank Containment Sump (SETLDS), (539 gal) SRB Bioreactor Sump (BRLDS), (625 gal)</p>	<p>Average daily accumulation (gpd)</p>	<p>Weekly⁽⁷⁾</p>
<p>5. <u>Waste Rock Storage Facilities (WRSF)</u></p> <p>Upper MD-1, MD-1, MD-2, SD-4, WD-1, and NWD;</p> <p>Each seep that is flowing</p>	<p>Visual inspection for physical stability and presence of water⁽⁸⁾;</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, Uranium⁽⁴⁾, flow rate (gpm), photograph(s), field pH (SU)⁽¹¹⁾, SC (µS/cm)⁽¹¹⁾</p>	<p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly</p>

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
<p>6. <u>Pit Lake Monitoring</u> North Pit (NPIT-S), (NPIT-M), (NPIT-B); Ashcraft Pit (APIT-S), (APIT-M), (APIT-B); Northwest Pit (NWPIT-S), (NWPIT-M), (NWPIT-B); Main Pit (MPIT-S), (MPIT-M), (MPIT-B); South Pit (SPIT-S), (SPIT-M), (SPIT-B); West Pit (WPIT-S), (WPIT-M), (WPIT-B);</p> <p>General Monitoring – each pit lake;</p> <p>Water Column Monitoring⁽¹⁰⁾ – each pit lake (if >25 feet depth);</p> <p>Surface Samples⁽¹³⁾ – each pit lake;</p> <p>Depth Samples⁽¹⁵⁾ – each pit lake that is >25 feet deep or has an outflow to groundwater</p>	<p>Presence of Water⁽⁹⁾;</p> <p>Photograph, lake surface elevation (ft. AMSL), maximum lake depth (ft.), lake area (acres);</p> <p>Continuous field temperature (°F)⁽¹¹⁾, SC (µS/cm)⁽¹¹⁾ with depth (ft.), field pH (SU)⁽¹¹⁾, field Eh (mV)⁽¹¹⁾;</p> <p>Profile III⁽¹⁴⁾; field pH (SU)⁽¹¹⁾, field Eh (mV)⁽¹¹⁾, depth below surface (ft.);</p> <p>Profile I⁽¹⁾⁽¹²⁾, Uranium⁽⁴⁾, depth below surface (ft.)</p>	<p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Quarterly</p>
<p>7. <u>Ashcraft Pit Water Collection and Conveyance System (APWCCS)</u></p>	<p>Profile I⁽¹⁾, Uranium⁽⁴⁾;;</p> <p>Flow at flume (gpm) and visual inspection⁽¹⁶⁾;</p> <p>Photograph; downgradient discharge distance (feet from source) and duration</p>	<p>Quarterly;</p> <p>Weekly;</p> <p>Monthly</p>
<p>8. <u>South Pit Lake Active In-situ Evaporation Operations</u></p>	<p>South Pit Lake surface elevation (feet AMSL)⁽¹⁷⁾</p>	<p>Weekly</p>

<u>Identification</u>	<u>Parameter</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
9. <u>South Pit Sulfate-Reducing Bioreactor</u> Settling/Equalization Tank Effluent (SPSETE); Bioreactor Cell (SPBRC); Bioreactor Effluent (SPBRE); Polishing Tank Effluent to South Pit (SPPTE)	Profile I ⁽¹⁾ , Uranium ⁽⁴⁾ ; TOC; Flow rate (gpm), DO, field pH (SU) ⁽¹¹⁾ , field ORP (mV) ⁽¹¹⁾ , SC (μS/cm) ⁽¹¹⁾ ; Depth to water (ft. bgs); Profile I ⁽¹⁾ , Uranium ⁽⁴⁾ , TOC; Flow rate (gpm), DO, field pH (SU) ⁽¹¹⁾ , field ORP (mV) ⁽¹¹⁾ , SC (μS/cm) ⁽¹¹⁾ , temperature (°F) ⁽¹¹⁾ ; Profile I ⁽¹⁾ , TOC; Flow rate (gpm), DO, field pH (SU) ⁽¹¹⁾ , field ORP (mV) ⁽¹¹⁾ , SC (μS/cm) ⁽¹¹⁾ , temperature (°F) ⁽¹¹⁾	Monthly ⁽¹⁸⁾ ; Weekly ⁽¹⁹⁾ ; Weekly; Monthly ⁽¹⁸⁾ ; Weekly ⁽¹⁹⁾ ; Monthly ⁽¹⁸⁾ ; Weekly ⁽¹⁹⁾
10. <u>Weather Station Facility</u> Ambient Conditions	Ambient temperature, (min/max), relative humidity (%), wind speed (mph), wind direction (azimuth degree), total precipitation (inches), solar irradiance (W/m ²), and SWE	Monthly daily average

The Permittee may request a reduction of the monitoring frequency after four quarters of complete monitoring based on justification other than cost. Such reductions may be considered modifications to the Permit and require payment of modification fees.

Abbreviations:

AMSL = above mean sea level; CaCO₃ = calcium carbonate; DO = dissolved oxygen; Eh = chemical reduction potential; EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; epilimnion = the uppermost layer in a stratified lake; °F = degrees Fahrenheit; ft. = feet; gal = gallons; gpm = gallons per minute; gpd = gallons per day; hypolimnion = a lower layer in a thermally stratified lake below the metalimnion; metalimnion = a middle layer in a thermally stratified lake characterized by a temperature decrease with depth; mg/L = milligrams per liter; mph = miles per hour; min/max = minimum/maximum; monimolimnion = the lower layer in a chemically stratified lake that does not mix with other layers; N = nitrogen; mV = millivolts; NDEP = Nevada Division of Environmental Protection; NAC = Nevada Administrative Code; ORP = oxidation-reduction potential; pCi/L = picocuries per liter; PCS = petroleum-contaminated soil; pH = the negative of the base 10 logarithm of the activity of the hydrogen ion; PQL = Practical Quantitation Limit; Q = calendar quarter of the year; stratified = a pit lake that has distinct chemical and/or temperature layers; SC = specific conductance; SU = standard units; SWE = snow water equivalent; TDS = total dissolved solids; TOC = total organic carbon; WAD =

weak acid dissociable; \leq = less than or equal to; \geq greater than or equal to; W/m^2 = watts per square meter; $\mu S/cm$ = micro Siemens per centimeter;

Footnotes:

(1) Profile I:

General Chemistry Parameters		
Acidity ⁽²⁾	Chloride	pH (\pm 0.1 SU)
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	Fluoride	Sulfate
Bicarbonate ⁽³⁾	Nitrate + Nitrite (as N)	Total Dissolved Solids
Total ⁽³⁾	Nitrogen Total (as N)	WAD Cyanide
Metals Dissolved		
Aluminum	Chromium	Potassium
Antimony	Copper	Selenium
Arsenic	Iron	Silver
Barium	Lead	Sodium
Beryllium	Magnesium	Thallium
Cadmium	Manganese	Zinc
Calcium	Mercury	--

- (2) All sample analyses resulting in a pH value less than or equal to 5.0 SU shall also be analyzed for acidity (mg/L, as CaCO₃ equivalent).
- (3) All sample analyses resulting in a pH value greater than or equal to 4.5 SU shall be analyzed for Alkalinity (Bicarbonate and Total).
- (4) Uranium (total) shall be reported in mg/L and have the reference value of 0.03 mg/L. If uranium (total) concentration is \geq 0.030 mg/L, analysis for the Profile I⁽¹⁾, Uranium, and Profile R⁽⁵⁾ is required in the subsequent quarter.

(5) Profile R:

Parameter	Reference Value/Unit
Gross Alpha ⁽⁶⁾	pCi/L
Adjusted Gross Alpha*	15 pCi/L
226Radium	pCi/L
228Radium	pCi/L
226Radium + 228Radium	5 pCi/L

*Adjusted gross alpha is gross alpha minus uranium activity in pCi/L.

- (6) If the sample location is known to have a TDS greater than 1,000 mg/L, gross alpha must be analyzed using an appropriate method, e.g. EPA 00-02, EPA 900.0. Additionally, if the reported gross alpha activity is less than or equal to 15 pCi/L and the uncertainty of the adjusted gross alpha analysis is greater than or equal to

15 pCi/L is acceptable (e.g. 36 ± 21 pCi/L would be acceptable since the low range is at 15 pCi/L). Please utilize the appropriate method to minimize the uncertainty. See Profile R analyte list on the Division's website for additional information.

- (7) The sumps must be inspected and evacuated on a more frequent basis than weekly if the fluid level is above the top of the sump or the invert of any pipe which discharges into the sump, whichever level is lower, or if the potential exists to exceed the sump capacity. Sumps must also be inspected during, if possible, and after major storm events in accordance with Part I.I, and at any other time when an increase in leakage flow may occur (e.g., during spring melt, etc.). Records are required documenting volume, date, and time of extraction to show that sumps are maintained in this condition.
- (8) Provide a visual evaluation of each waste rock storage facility for physical stability (e.g., stable, unstable, or slope failure), presence of water, and seepage. If visibly unstable, or slope failure, describe. For presence of water, identify whether the surface and toes of the waste rock storage facility are dry, damp, or wet (ponded or flowing water). If seepage is emanating from any portion of a waste rock storage facility, the Permittee shall perform the required monitoring for seeps.
- (9) For presence of water, state whether the pit surface is dry, damp, or wet (ponded or flowing water). If sufficient ponded water is present for sampling, the Permittee shall perform the required monitoring for pit lakes.
- (10) A continuous temperature-conductivity profile shall be completed for the entire water column at the deepest location in each pit lake.
- (11) Field measurements (e.g., temperature, specific conductance, pH, SC, Eh, ORP, etc.) shall be made at the Project site concurrent with the monitoring activity using a calibrated instrument, and do not require analysis by a laboratory certified or approved by the State of Nevada as otherwise specified in Part II.E.5. Field measurements must be accompanied by appropriate calibration information.
- (12) Profile 1 surface samples must be collected less than 10 feet below the surface in the middle of the pit lake.
- (13) Profile III samples shall be collected no more than 5 feet out from the shoreline to a maximum depth of 10 inches below the surface.
- (14) Profile III:

General Chemistry Parameters		
Acidity ⁽²⁾	Fluoride	Sulfate
Alkalinity (as CaCO ₃)	Nitrate + Nitrite (as N)	Total Dissolved Solids
Bicarbonate ⁽³⁾	Nitrogen, Total (as N)	Total Suspended Solids
Total ⁽³⁾	pH (± 0.1 SU) ⁽²⁾	--
Chloride	Phosphorus	--
Metals Totals		
Aluminum	Copper	Potassium
Antimony	Iron	Selenium

Arsenic	Lead	Sodium
Barium	Lithium	Strontium
Beryllium	Magnesium	Thallium
Boron	Manganese	Tin
Cadmium	Mercury	Uranium
Calcium	Molybdenum	Vanadium
Chromium	Nickel	Zinc

- (15) Depth sampling shall be performed at the deepest location in each pit lake. The number and depth of samples shall be determined based on the temperature-conductivity profile of the water column at the time of sampling. If the lake is stratified, collect a separate depth sample from each distinct layer in the water column (e.g., from the epilimnion, metalimnion, hypolimnion, and monimolimnion, as applicable; however, note that the quarterly sample from the surface layer [epilimnion] must be analyzed for Profile III constituents per the surface sample requirements whereas the quarterly depth samples from all other layers are analyzed for Profile I constituents). If the lake is unstratified and between 25 and 50 feet deep, collect one depth sample from the lower half of the water column. If the lake is unstratified and greater than 50 feet deep, collect two depth samples consisting of an intermediate sample from the middle third of the water column and a deep sample from the lower third of the water column, no more than 5 feet above the pit bottom. If the lake is less than 25 feet deep but includes an outflow to groundwater (i.e., it is a hydrologic flow-through pit lake), collect a quarterly Profile I⁽¹⁾⁽¹²⁾ surface sample in addition to the quarterly Profile III⁽¹³⁾⁽¹⁴⁾ surface sample.
- (16) During periods of Ashcraft Pit Lake outflow, the Permittee will be required to inspect the spillway, flume, channel and any control and/or measuring devices weekly in accordance with Part I.I.
- (17) During periods of active South Pit Lake evaporation operations, the Permittee shall inspect all control devices, evaporator systems, pumps, piping, valves, and remote cameras weekly per Part I.I. The above components shall also be inspected during, when possible, and after major storm events.
- (18) The Division may require additional monitoring locations and/or changes in monitoring frequency.,
- (19) Sample collection shall be conducted on the same day as flow measurement.
- E. Quarterly and annual monitoring reports and release reporting shall be in accordance with Part II.B.
- F. All sampling and analytical accuracy shall be in accordance with Part II.E.
- G. Permit Limitations
1. The daily accumulation or flow exceeding 150 gallons per day averaged over the quarter in the leak detection sumps identified in Part I.D.4.
 2. The daily accumulation or flow exceeding 50 gallons per day averaged over the year in the leak detection sumps identified in Part I.D.4.
 3. Failure to meet a Schedule of Compliance date, Continuing Investigation, or requirement.

4. All analytical samples shall be analyzed as mentioned in the Footnotes or Section II.E, as applicable.
5. The storage of process solution in a single-lined pond for more than 20 consecutive days for any single event.
6. The Permittee shall not discharge flows from the APWCCS in excess of 100 gpm, averaged over a seven-day time period, without Division approval. The discharge water shall not exceed a Division Profile I reference value and the background concentration at the point of discharge unless the Division has approved a demonstration that the discharge does not have the potential to degrade waters of the State.
7. Except as otherwise allowed by this Permit, a minimum 2-foot freeboard shall be maintained in all ponds.
8. Excess solution inventory reduction/disposal plans must be approved by the Division prior to any inventory reduction actions.
9. The facility shall not degrade waters of the State to the extent that applicable water quality standards or reference values, and background concentrations, are exceeded.

Exceedances of these limitations may be Permit violations and shall be reported as specified in Part II.B.4.

- H. The facility shall maintain an automated or manual calibrated rain and snow gauge(s), which shall be monitored at least daily, to record precipitation (inches of water, including snow water equivalent). A record of all daily weather data, per Part I.D.10, shall be maintained onsite, or at the office of record of the Permittee, and shall be submitted to the Division upon request, with each submittal of the Permit renewal, and pursuant to Parts II.B.1 and II.B.2, as applicable, in a Division-approved electronic format.
- I. The Permittee shall inspect all control devices, systems, and facilities weekly, as well as during (when possible), and after major storm events. These inspections are performed to detect evidence of:
 1. Deterioration, malfunction, or improper operation of control or monitoring systems;
 2. Sudden changes in the data from any monitoring device;
 3. The presence of liquids in leak detection systems; and
 4. Severe erosion or other signs of deterioration in dikes, diversions, closure covers, or other containment devices.

If detected, the Permittee shall report the above conditions in accordance with Part II.B.4, except such a report is not required for the presence of liquids in leak detection systems unless a leak detection limitation in Part I.G is exceeded.

- J. Prior to initiating permanent closure activities at the facility, or at any process component or other source within the facility, the Permittee shall submit and obtain approval from the Division, in writing, of a final plan for permanent closure.
- K. The Permittee shall remit an annual review and services fee in accordance with NAC 445A, as applicable, starting July 1 after the effective date of this Permit and every year thereafter until the Permit is terminated or the facility has received final closure certification from the Division.
- L. The Permittee shall not dispose of or treat Petroleum-Contaminated Soil (PCS) on the mine site without first obtaining from the Division approval of a PCS Management Plan.

M. When performing dust suppression activities, the Permittee shall use best management practices and appropriate selection of water source and additives to prevent degradation of waters of the State. If a dust suppressant exceeds a water quality standard and the corresponding natural background water concentration in the area where dust suppression will occur, the Permittee shall demonstrate no potential to degrade waters of the State.

N. Continuing Investigations:

1. The Permittee shall submit to the Division, for review and approval, an updated groundwater flow model and pit lake study with each Permit renewal and with any application to modify the Permit that could affect the pit lake predictive model. The submittal shall also include an ecological risk assessment if the predictive pit lake model indicates the potential for exceedance of a Division Profile III reference value, unless the constituent concentration for each predicted Profile III exceedance is no greater than the concentration evaluated in a previous Division-approved ecological risk assessment for the Project. These studies and assessments shall address, at a minimum, the requirements of NAC 445A.429, and shall include all available data, alternative pit lake or backfill scenarios, and mitigations to reduce ecological risk and the potential to degrade groundwater, as applicable. Approval may require modification of the Permit and payment of modification fees.

II. General Facility Conditions and Limitations

A. General Requirements

1. The Permittee shall achieve compliance with the conditions, limitations, and requirements of the Permit upon commencement of each relevant activity. The Administrator may, upon the request of the Permittee and after public notice (if required), revise or modify a Schedule of Compliance in an issued Permit if he or she determines good and valid cause (such as an act of God, a labor strike, materials shortage, or other event over which Permittee has little or no control) exists for such revision.
2. The Permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate as efficiently as possible, all devices, facilities, and systems installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this Permit.
3. Whenever the Permittee becomes aware that he or she failed to submit any relevant facts in the Permit application or submitted incorrect information in a Permit application or in any report to the Administrator, the Permittee shall promptly submit such facts or correct information. Any inaccuracies found in this information may be grounds for revocation or modification of this Permit and appropriate enforcement action.

B. Reporting Requirements

1. The Permittee shall submit quarterly reports in both hard copy and a Division-approved electronic format, which are due to the Division on or before the 28th day of the month following the quarter and must contain the following:
 - a. Monitoring results from leak detection sumps or piezometers identified in Part I.D.2 and I.D.4, reported on NDEP Form 0590 or equivalent;
 - b. Analytical results of the solution collected from monitoring locations identified in Part I.D.1, I.D.3, I.D.5, I.D.6, I.D.7, and I.D.9, reported on Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Form 0190 or equivalent;
 - c. Water and collar elevations in feet AMSL of wells identified in Part I.D.1 and I.D.2;

- d. Hydraulic head, groundwater and collar elevations for the pit backfill piezometer identified in Part I.D.2;
- e. Pond volume and freeboard, as applicable, identified in Part I.D.3;
- f. Analytical results for the pit lakes identified in Part I.D.6, reported on NDEP Form 0290 and NDEP Form 0190 or equivalent, as applicable;
- g. Continuous monitoring results with depth for each pit lake: field temperature, SC with depth, field pH, and field Eh identified in Part I.D.6.
- h. Other monitoring results for the pit lakes identified in Part I.D.6;
- i. Other monitoring data and photographs for the APWCCS identified in Part I.D.7;
- j. South Pit Lake surface elevation identified in Part I.D.8;
- k. All other monitoring data, as applicable, for locations identified in Parts I.D.1, I.D.5, I.D.6, and I.D.9;
- l. A record of releases, and the remedial actions taken in accordance with the approved Emergency Response Plan on NDEP Form 0490 or equivalent;
- m. Analytical results and other monitoring results of the waste rock storage facilities from monitoring locations identified in Part I.D.5, reported on NDEP Form 0190 or equivalent, as applicable; and,
- n. A summary of all monitoring locations which had uranium greater than or equal to 0.03 mg/L with the planned next step of sampling per Footnote (4);
- o. South Pit SRB Treatment System reporting – Graphs of the following parameters from SPSETE, SPBRC, SPBRE, and SPPTE: DO, TOC, SC, pH, flowrate, ORP, sulfate, TDS, and other constituents of concern as identified in Part I.D.9.

Facilities which have not initiated mining or construction, must submit a quarterly report identifying the status of mining or construction. Subsequent to any noncompliance or any facility expansion which provides increased capacity, the Division may require an accelerated monitoring frequency.

2. The Permittee shall submit an annual report, in both hard copy and a Division-approved electronic format, by February 28th of each year, for the preceding calendar year, which contains the following:
 - a. Graphs of pumpback system pumping rates and leak detection flow rates; pH, TDS, sulfate, chloride, nitrate + nitrite (as N), zinc, and arsenic concentration (as applicable), versus time for all fluid sampling points, excluding pit lakes. These graphs shall display the history since initial Permit issuance if available. Additional parameters may be required by the Division if deemed necessary;
 - b. A summary of the pump back system effectiveness for the MWU-2001 in Part I.D.1. Include how the system is performing and estimated time for the remediation to be complete and any other pertinent information.
 - c. Graphs of aluminum, antimony, arsenic, cadmium, lead, magnesium, manganese, nickel, nitrate + nitrite (as N), pH, selenium, sulfate, TDS, and total alkalinity concentration (in mg/L), versus time for all pit lakes identified in Part I.D.1. and I.D.6. These graphs shall display the history since initial Permit issuance;

- d. Pit lake surface elevations identified in Part I.D.6 presented in graphical form since initial Permit issuance. In addition, individual pit lake elevations will be plotted together with the appropriate monitoring well static water elevations as follows:
 - i. North Pit Lake: MU-1336, MU-1337;
 - ii. Ashcraft Pit Lake: APWCCS flows, MU-1339A, MU-1351, MU-1352B, MU-1354A, MU-1355, MU-1361B, MU-1362, MU-1363, WMU-26;
 - iii. Northwest Pit Lake: MU-1337, MU-1357, WMU-12, WMU-2101;
 - iv. West Pit: MU-1357, WMU-12;
 - v. Main Pit Lake: MU-1338, MU-1339A, MU-1341, MU-1351, MU-1352B, MU-1354A, MU-1355, MU-1356, MU-1357, MU-1361B, MU-1362, MU-1363, WMU-12, WMU-13R, WMU-24, WMU-25, WMU-1901A, WMU-1901B, and WMU-1902, WMU-2102, WMU-2304, WMU-2301, WMU-2302; and
 - vi. South Pit Lake: WMU-2A, MU-1343, MU-1358, WMU-23, WMU-2303A, and WMU-2303B.
 - e. APWCCS weekly flows identified in Part I.D.7 presented in graphical form since initial discharge;
 - f. A summary update of the South Pit Lake management program;
 - g. A table of total monthly precipitation amounts and other weather data, as applicable, recorded in accordance with Parts I.D.10 and I.H, reported for the history since initial Permit issuance;
 - h. An updated version of the facility monitoring and sampling procedures and protocols; and,
 - i. An updated evaluation of the progress and performance of the South Pit SRB Treatment System including a discussion of monitoring results and graphed trends per Parts I.D.9 and II.B.1.n.
 - j. A synopsis of releases on NDEP Form 0390 or equivalent;
 - k. A brief summary of closure activities, including any problems with the fluid management system;
 - l. A report of results, evaluation of collected data, conclusions, and recommendations for all required mitigation, reclamation, and closure activities undertaken during the previous year; and
 - m. An updated Final Plan for Permanent Closure (FPPC) incorporating any new site information that may impact these plans. The Plans shall be prepared in accordance with the current version of the Division guidance documents “Tentative Plans for Permanent Closure Guidance” and “Preparation Requirements & Guidelines Permanent Closure Plans & Final Closure Reports,” as applicable.
3. Release Reporting Requirements: The following applies to facilities with an approved Emergency Response Plan. If a site does not have an approved Emergency Response Plan, then all releases must be reported as per NAC 445A.347 or NAC 445A.3473, as appropriate.

- a. A release of any quantity of hazardous substance, as defined at NAC 445A.3454, to surface water, or that threatens a vulnerable resource, as defined at NAC 445A.3459, must be reported to the Division as soon as practicable after knowledge of the release, and after the Permittee notifies any emergency response agencies, if required, and initiates any action required to prevent or abate any imminent danger to the environment or the health or safety of persons. An oral report shall be made by telephone to (888) 331-6337, and a written report shall be provided within 10 days in accordance with Part II.B.4.b.
 - b. A release of a hazardous substance in a quantity equal to or greater than that which is required to be reported to the National Response Center pursuant to 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 302 must be reported as required by NAC 445A.3473 and Part II.B.3.a.
 - c. A release of a non-petroleum hazardous substance not subject to Parts II.B.3.a. or II.B.3.b., released to soil or other surfaces of land, and the total quantity is equal to or exceeds 500 gallons or 4,000 pounds, or that is discovered in or on groundwater in any quantity, shall be reported to the Division no later than 5:00 P.M. of the first working day after knowledge of the release. The release shall be reported through the online reporting system available at <http://www.ndep.nv.gov> or an oral report shall be made by telephone to (888) 331-6337. A written report shall be provided within 10 days in accordance with Part II.B.4.b. Smaller releases, with total quantity greater than 25 gallons or 200 pounds and less than 500 gallons or 4,000 pounds, released to soil or other surfaces of land, or discovered in at least 3 cubic yards of soil, shall be reported quarterly on NDEP Form 0390 or equivalent.
 - d. Petroleum Products and Coolants: If a release is subject to Parts II.B.3.a. or II.B.3.b., report as specified in Part II.B.3.a. Otherwise, if a release of any quantity is discovered on or in groundwater, or if the total quantity is equal to or greater than 100 gallons released to soil or other surfaces of land, report as specified in Part II.B.3.c. Smaller releases, with total quantity greater than 25 gallons but less than 100 gallons, released to soil or other surfaces of land, or if discovered in at least 3 cubic yards of soil, shall be reported quarterly on NDEP Form 0390 or equivalent.
4. The Permittee shall report to the Administrator any noncompliance with the Permit, including any exceedances or deviations from Part I.G.
- a. Each such event shall be reported orally by telephone to (775) 687-9400, not later than 5:00 P.M. of the next regular work day from the time the Permittee has knowledge of the circumstances. This report shall include the following:
 - i. Name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator;
 - ii. Name, address, and telephone number of the facility;
 - iii. Date, time, and type of incident, condition, or circumstance;
 - iv. If reportable hazardous substances were released, identify material and report total gallons and quantity of contaminant;
 - v. Human and animal mortality or injury;
 - vi. An assessment of actual or potential hazard to human health and the environment outside the facility; and

- vii. If applicable, the estimated quantity of material that will be disposed and the disposal location.
- b. A written summary shall be provided within 10 days of the time the Permittee makes the oral report. The written summary shall contain:
 - i. A description of the incident and its cause;
 - ii. The periods of the incident (including exact dates and times);
 - iii. If reportable hazardous substances were released, the steps taken and planned to complete, as soon as reasonably practicable, an assessment of the extent and magnitude of the contamination pursuant to NAC 445A.2269;
 - iv. Whether the cause and its consequences have been corrected, and if not, the anticipated time each is expected to continue; and
 - v. The steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the event.
- c. The Permittee shall take all available and reasonable actions, including more frequent and enhanced monitoring to:
 - i. Determine the effect and extent of each incident;
 - ii. Minimize any potential impact to the waters of the State arising from each incident;
 - iii. Minimize the effect of each incident upon domestic animals and all wildlife; and
 - iv. Minimize the endangerment of the public health and safety which arises from each incident.
- d. If required by the Division, the Permittee shall submit, as soon as reasonably practicable, a final written report summarizing any related actions, assessments, or evaluations not included in the report required in Part II.B.4.b., and including any other information necessary to determine and minimize the potential for degradation of waters of the State and the impact to human health and the environment. Submittal of the final report does not relieve the Permittee from any additional actions, assessments, or evaluations that may be required by the Division.

C. Administrative Requirements

1. A valid Permit must be maintained until permanent closure, closed-stabilization pending, and post-closure monitoring are complete. Therefore, unless permanent closure and post-closure monitoring have been completed and termination of the Permit has been approved in writing by the Division, the Permittee shall apply for Permit renewal not later than 120 days before the Permit expires.
2. Except as required by NAC 445A.419 for a Permit transfer, the Permittee shall submit current Permit contact information described in paragraphs (a) through (c) of subsection 2 of NAC 445A.394 within 30 days after any change in previously submitted information.
3. All reports and other information requested by the Administrator shall be signed and certified as required by NAC 445A.231.
4. All reports required by this Permit, including, but not limited to, monitoring reports, corrective action reports, and as-built reports, as applicable, and all applications for Permit

modifications and renewals, shall be submitted in both hard copy and a Division-approved electronic format.

5. The Permittee shall submit any new or updated Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) location data for all monitoring points specified in Part I.D, expressed in meters and decimals of a meter, using the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983 (also known as the North American Datum of 1983 or NAD83, ref NRS 327.005), with each Permit renewal, as-built report, and monitoring plan update, as applicable. Data shall be submitted electronically to the Division in Excel format.
6. When ordered consistent with Nevada Statutes, the Permittee shall furnish any relevant information in order to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or permanently revoking this Permit, or to determine compliance with this Permit.
7. The Permittee shall maintain a copy of, and all modifications to, the current Permit at the office of record of the Permittee at all times.
8. The Permittee is required to retain, during closure and post-closure monitoring, all records of monitoring activities and analytical results, including all original strip chart or data logger recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, and all calibration and maintenance records. This period of retention must be extended during the course of any unresolved litigation.
9. The provisions of this Permit are severable. If any provision of this Permit, or the application of any provision of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this Permit, shall not thereby be affected.
10. The Permittee is authorized to manage fluids and solid wastes in accordance with the conditions of this Permit. Issuance of this Permit does not convey property rights of any sort or any exclusive privilege; nor does it authorize any injury to persons or property, any invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of Federal, State, or local law or regulations. Compliance with the terms of this Permit does not constitute a defense to any order issued or any action brought under the Water Pollution Control Statutes for releases or discharges from facilities or units not regulated by this Permit. NRS 445A.675 provides that any person who violates a Permit condition is subject to administrative or judicial action provided in NRS 445A.690 through 445A.705.

D. Division Authority

The Permittee shall allow authorized representatives of the Division, at reasonable times, and upon the presentation of credentials to:

1. Enter the premises of the Permittee where a regulated activity is conducted or where records are kept per the conditions of this Permit;
2. Have access to and copy any record that must be kept per the conditions of this Permit;
3. Inspect and photograph any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated by this Permit; and
4. Sample or monitor for any substance or parameter at any location for the purposes of assuring Permit and regulatory compliance.

E. Sampling and Analysis Requirements

1. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
2. For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the conditions of this Permit, the Permittee shall record the following information:
 - a. The exact place, date, and time of the inspection, observation, measurement, or sampling; and
 - b. The person(s) who inspected, observed, measured, or sampled.
3. Samples must be taken, preserved, and labeled according to Division approved methods.
4. Standard environmental monitoring chain of custody procedures must be followed.
5. Samples shall be analyzed by a laboratory certified or approved by the State of Nevada, as applicable for the method(s) being performed. The Permittee must identify in all required reports the certified and approved laboratories used to perform the analyses, laboratory reference numbers, and sample dates, and include all associated laboratory analytical reports, including test results, test methods, chain-of-custody forms, and quality assurance/quality control documentation.
6. The accuracy of analytical results, unless otherwise specified, shall be expressed in mg/L and be reliable to at least two significant digits. The analytical methods used must have a practical quantitation limit (PQL) equal to or less than one-half the reference value for Profile I, Profile III, Uranium (total), Profile R, and Surface Water Profile parameters. Laboratories shall report the lowest reasonable PQL based on in-house method detection limit studies. Samples shall be analyzed by methods listed in 40 CFR Part 136 Table 1B, as applicable, by a laboratory certified for that method by the State of Nevada – Bureau of Safe Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Program. Samples for Profile I metals shall be filtered, digested, and analyzed for the dissolved fraction, all other Profile I parameters and samples requiring uranium analysis shall be unfiltered, digested (as applicable) and analyzed for the total recoverable fraction; samples for Profile III metals shall be unfiltered, digested, and analyzed for the total recoverable fraction, all other Profile III parameters analysis shall be unfiltered, digested (as applicable) and analyzed for the total recoverable fraction; samples for Surface Water Profile parameters shall be analyzed in accordance with NAC 445A.1236 and other applicable surface water regulations; samples requiring Uranium and Profile R analysis shall be unfiltered, digested (as applicable) and analyzed. For additional guidance, please see the Profile Analytical Lists on the website of the Division: <https://ndep.nv.gov/land/mining>. Unless otherwise approved by the Division, analytical results that are less than the PQL shall be reported quantitatively by listing the PQL value preceded by the “<” symbol.

F. Permit Modification Requirements

1. Any material modification, as defined at NAC 445A.365, plan to construct a new process component, or proposed change to Permit requirements must be reported to the Division by submittal of an application for a Permit modification, or if such changes are in conformance with the existing Permit, by submittal of a written notice of the changes. The Permit modification application must comply with NAC 445A.391 through 445A.399, 445A.414, 445A.415, 445A.416, 445A.417, 445A.440, and 445A.442, as applicable. The construction or modification shall not commence, nor shall a change to the Permit be effective, until written Division approval is obtained.

2. Prior to the commencement of mining activities at any site within the State which is owned or operated by the Permittee but not identified and characterized in a previously submitted application or report, the Permittee shall submit to the Division a report which identifies the locations of the proposed mine areas and waste disposal sites, and characterizes the potential of mined materials and areas to release pollutants. Prior to development of these areas the Division shall determine if any of these new sources will be classified as process components and require engineered containment as well as Permit modification.
3. The Permittee shall notify the Division in writing at least 30 days before the introduction of process solution into a new process component or into an existing process component that has been materially modified, or of the intent to commence active operation of that process component. Before introducing process solution or commencing active operation, the Permittee shall obtain written authorization from the Division.
4. The Permittee must obtain a written determination from the Administrator of any planned process component construction or material modification, or any proposed change to Permit requirements, as to whether it is considered a Permit modification, and if so, what type.
5. The Permittee must give advance notice to the Administrator of any planned changes or activities which are not material modifications in the Permitted facility that may result in noncompliance with Permit requirements.

Prepared by: Crystal Borotto
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