



NEVADA DIVISION OF

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

A division of the
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

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NOTICE OF DECISION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Date of Posting: 10/28/2026

Deadline for Appeal: 11/07/2026

**Cypress Holdings (Nevada), Ltd.
Tonopah Airport Lithium Processing Demonstration Facility
WPCP NEV2026117**

The Administrator of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has decided to issue renewed Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2026117 to Cypress Holdings (Nevada), Ltd. This Permit authorizes the construction, operation, and closure of approved mining facilities in Nye County, Nevada. The NDEP has been provided with sufficient information, in accordance with Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.350 through 445A.447, to assure that the waters of the State will not be degraded by this operation, and that public safety and health will be protected.

The Permit will become effective November 12, 2026. The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 445A.605 and NAC 445A.407. All requests for appeals must be filed by 5:00 PM, 07 November 2026, on Form 3, with the State Environmental Commission, 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249. For more information, contact Allie Thibault at (775) 687-9404 or athibault@ndep.nv.gov, or visit the Division public notice website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/land>.

Written comments were received during the public comment period from John Samuel. The text of all comments and the Division responses (in *italics*) are included below as part of this Notice of Decision.

John Samuel Written Comment #1 (October 21, 2026 email)

Public comment regarding NEV2026117, Tonopah Airport docket item.

I recognize the importance of developing domestic mineral resources, but the history of the existing process ponds raises concerns about long-term accountability. According to NDEP's fact sheet, the previous permit was revoked in 2018 and the anticipated pond closures were never completed. Before authorizing their reuse, please explain why those obligations remain unresolved and require independent verification of liner integrity.

I encourage enforceable groundwater protections, publicly available monitoring results, and financial assurance sufficient to complete closure even if the operator ceases business. Having worked on restoring disturbed land, I've learned that the most important part of a project is often what happens

after the initial work is finished. Please establish who will remain responsible for the site long after this demonstration project ends.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Division Response #1

The Division concurs with the need for a review of the liner integrity of the existing ponds prior to their use. This is addressed in Schedule of Compliance Item #1, which requires that the permittee conduct liner integrity testing and submit results to the Division for review prior to operations.

The Tonopah Airport is private land, owned and operated by Nye County. The final plan for permanent closure for Water Pollution Control Permit NEV2012103 was submitted by Nye County on July 12, 2017 and approved by the Division on July 14, 2017.

Per NRS and NAC 519A, If the site expands to create disturbance over five acres a Reclamation Permit will be required through the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation's Reclamation Branch and the required financial assurances will need to be posted. These financial assurances are not in the purview of this permit.