

NOTICE OF DECISION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web posting: 03/07/2019

Deadline for appeal: 03/17/2019

Newmont USA Limited
Mule Canyon Mine
WPCP Number NEV0094110

The Administrator of the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) has decided to issue renewed Water Pollution Control Permit (WPCP) **NEV0094110** to **Newmont USA Limited** (Permittee). This Permit authorizes the closure of approved mining facilities in Lander County, Nevada. The Division 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 28 March 2019. 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, 17 March 2019, on Form 3, with the State Environmental Commission, 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001, Carson City, Nevada 89701-5249. For more information, contact Lisa A. Kreskey at (775) 687-9415 or visit the Division website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/land>. Comments were received by Great Basin Resource Watch (GBRW).

GBRW Comment 1:

We are concerned about the closure of the site, and see the potential need for a long-term funding mechanism.

Division Response 1:

Comment noted.

GBRW Comment 2:

How does Newmont plan to address the flow-through aspect of many of the pit lakes, which are degrading groundwater?

Division Response 2:

The facility is currently under a corrective action plan for the Main Pit Lake contaminant plume that will take some time to conclude; see Schedule of Compliance (SOC) item #1 in the WPCP. SOC item #1 requires a Final Plan for Permanent Closure

of the South Pit Lake by 1 July 2019. Each new WPCP renewal will create new objectives for pit lake management.

GBRW Comment 3:

Does Newmont have an end date for active management?

Division Response 3:

There is currently no end-date for active management.

GBRW Comment 4:

GBRW would like to schedule a time to discuss this site sometime in the next few months.

Division Response 4:

The Division is pleased to meet with GBRW representatives and can schedule a meeting at your convenience. Please contact the Division with your availability.