



NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following notice of proposed action under the Nevada Revised Statutes and/or the Clean Water Act, where applicable. The Administrator has received an application for a Existing Manufacturing, Commercial, Mining and Silvicultural Discharge, permit number NV0022675 from the following applicant:

NEVADA GOLD MINES LLC
1655 MOUNTAIN CITY HIGHWAY
ELKO, NV - 89801

Permit NV0022675, BOULDER VALLEY WATER TREATMENT FACILITY:

The Permittee, Nevada Gold Mines, LLC, has applied for renewal of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit NV0022675 to discharge treated groundwater from the Boulder Valley Water Treatment Facility (hereinafter facility) to the Humboldt River via pipelines, lined canals, Whitehouse Ditch, and Rock Creek.

The Permittee owns and operates a gold mining operation located in Eureka and Elko counties, NV. To ensure stability of open pit mine walls, to enable the development of underground mines, and to facilitate optimum recovery of the precious metals resources, the Permittee developed and implemented a groundwater management program and began pumping in 1990. The treatment process at the facility includes precipitation, clarification/settling, and neutralization followed by cooling through cooling towers.

The permit allows the Permittee to discharge groundwater from pit mine operations to the Humboldt River via pipelines, lined canals, Whitehouse Ditch, and Rock Creek at a rate of 100.8 million gallons per day (MGD), as a 30-day average, and up to 110 MGD as a daily maximum.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, as amended, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue Permit NV0022675 to discharge for a five (5) year period, subject to certain effluent limitations.

Persons wishing to comment upon or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance should submit their comments or request, in writing, hand delivered or postmarked no later than 5:00 P.M. on 04/18/2025, either in person or by mail to:

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. All comments or objections received within the thirty (30) day period will be considered in the formulation of final determination(s) regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty (30) days prior to the hearing date.

If no hearing is held and the determinations of the Administrator are substantially changed from the tentative determinations, the Administrator will give public notice of the revised determinations. Additional comments and objections will be considered at that time.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determined to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The applications, proposed permits, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by contacting Bonnie Hartley, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9502 or at bhartley@ndep.nv.gov. The office facsimile number is (775) 687-4684. For further information, the fact sheet for this project can be viewed at the following website: <https://ndep.nv.gov/posts/category/water>.

Please bring the forgoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.