



A division of the
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

STATE OF NEVADA
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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 Groundwater Discharge, permit number NS2018507 from the following applicant:

GREFCO MINERALS, INC.
36994 SUMMIT LAKE ROAD
BURNEY, CA - 96013

Permit NS2018507, GREFCO MINE & MILL:

The Permittee, Grefco Minerals, Inc, has applied for groundwater discharge permit renewal, NS2018507, for its facility located at Grefco Mine Road, Highway 6 West near Basalt, Nevada. The Grefco mine is a diatomaceous earth (DE) mining and milling operation. The mine is located in both Esmeralda and Mineral Counties, about 60 miles west of Tonopah and south of Nevada State Highway 6. The mill and discharge area is located in Esmeralda County. Since 2010, a low flow (approximately 20 gallons per minute) of process water discharge has been routed into the inactive Mill Pit (in Esmeralda County) directly south of the processing plant resulting to a pit lake. The Pit Lake is unlined and regulated as waters of the state. Proper studies and investigations were done to ensure that potential for environmental impact to humans or wildlife is minimal. Groundwater is not present in the general area; thus, potential for aquifer disturbance is minimal. The general premises and the permitted Pit Lake location of this facility predominantly constitute DE, a commonly used filter medium. Therefore, when managed under strict adherence to the facility's Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual, the permitted discharges have no potential to degrade the waters of the State.

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 NS2018507 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 05/20/2026, 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 Florida Nasategay, Bureau of Water Pollution Control, at (775) 687-9431 or at f.nasategay@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.