

STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

Jim Gibbons, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION Leo

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

Notice of Proposed Action

web posting date 02/24/09

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit for the Spring Valley Project has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Permit NEV2003112 is:

Geo-Nevada, Inc. Mr. J. Craig Demetras, Authorized Agent 230 E. Liberty St. Reno, NV 89501

The Spring Valley Project is a physical separation facility, pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.414, utilizing gravity separation methods to extract gold. No chemicals are authorized for use in the process. The facility is designed and constructed to operate and close without any discharge or release from the fluid management system except for metrological events that exceed the design storm event. Application materials submitted by Geo-Nevada, Inc. indicate at least a five-year life expectancy from the date of permit renewal for the Spring Valley Project.

The Spring Valley Project is located in the historic Spring Valley Mining District (also referred to as the South Comstock/Devil's Gate/Chinatown Mining District), a once active placer gold mining district. Spring Valley is approximately 8 miles northeast of Carson City and 3 miles west of Dayton, in Lyon County. The legal land description is Sections 20, 21 and 28, Township 16 North, Range 21 East, MDB&M.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the renewal Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative determination to issue the renewal permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed renewal permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation Attn: Paul Eckert, P.E.

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901 S. Stewart St., Suite 4001 Carson City, NV 89701

Comments, objections, or requests received via facsimile or e-mail before 5:00 pm on March 27, 2009 will also be considered in the final determination regarding this permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact Paul Eckert at (775) 687-9401 or visit the Bureau of Mining website at http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.htm