



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Winnemucca District Office
Black Rock Field Office
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www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html

In Reply Refer To:

DEC 18 2012

N-064641
3809/1792 (NVW0100.34)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca District, Black Rock Field Office (WD/BRFO) is seeking public input on an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Hycroft Mine Expansion Project. Hycroft Resources and Development Inc. (HRDI) has submitted an amendment to their Plan of Operations (Plan) for the Hycroft Mine (BLM record N-064641). The location of the proposed amended mining and processing facility is approximately 55 miles west of Winnemucca, Nevada on the west flank of the Kamma Mountains. The Mine is located on private and public lands in T.34N., R.29E., sections 1-4, 9-12 and 14; T.35N., R.29E., sections 13, 14, 22-27, and 33-36; T. 35N., R.330E., sections 16-21 and 28-32.

The proposed modification includes:

- Construction of the lined South Processing Complex including modification to the authorized South Heap Leach pad and facilities to accommodate tailing storage;
- Construction of a rail spur and associated storage, preparation, packaging, and load out facilities;
- Construction of a mill and processing area on Hycroft's private land;
- Construction of a utility pipeline and access road to connect the milling area to the rail spur;
- Expand the Bay Area open pit;
- Expand and combine the Brimstone and Center open pits into a single open pit;
- Modify authorized Waste Rock Facilities and backfill locations;
- Expand the truck shop;
- Relocate the upper fresh water pond; and
- Construct growth media stockpiles
- A Right of Way (ROW) application was also submitted to construct 11 new production water wells, approximately 58,000 feet of buried water pipeline, approximately 35,000 feet of overhead 24.9kV power line, 10 laydown areas, and various access and maintenance roads. Approximately 99 acres is anticipated to be disturbed (69.65 for wells, access routes, pipelines and power lines, and 29.3 acres for temporary laydown areas and construction areas).

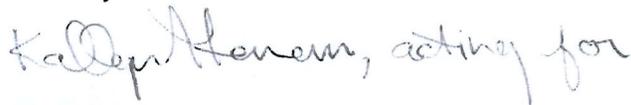
Total disturbed acreage under this proposed modification would be approximately 894 acres. The proposed modification does not change the authorized mine life. Pending acquisition of requisite authorizations and permits, the proposed activities would begin in 2013, with mining continuing to 2024.

The public is invited to submit comments relative to the development of an EA within 30 days of the date of this letter. Please send written comments to Ms. Kathleen Rehberg, project lead, at the above address, or e-mail wfoweb@blm.gov with "Hycroft Mine Expansion (Rehberg)" in the subject line. This letter and a map are also available on the NEPA webpage at http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.htm1. In addition, a copy of Hycroft's Plan of Operations is available for review at the Winnemucca District Office during regular business hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Public comments submitted for this EA and Plan, including names and addresses of commenters, will be available for public review during regular business hours (above). Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personnel identifying information in your comment, please be advised that your entire comment, including personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. While individuals may request that the BLM withhold personal identifying information from public review, BLM cannot guarantee it will be able to do so. If you wish us to withhold your personal information, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses available for public disclosure in their entirety.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kathleen Rehberg at (775) 623-1500 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerald Dixon, acting for".

Gerald Dixon
Field Manager
Black Rock Field Office