



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Winnemucca District Office  
Humboldt River Field Office  
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[www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html)

July 23, 2013

In Reply Refer To:  
3809/1792  
N-64623 (NV0100.38)

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management, Winnemucca District, Humboldt River Field Office (HRFO) is seeking public input as it initiates an environmental analysis for the Jipangu International, Inc. subsidiary Florida Canyon Mining, Inc. (FCMI) plan to expand operations (Amended Plan of Operations Number 20) at the existing Florida Canyon Mine. The Florida Canyon Mine is approximately forty-five miles southwest of Winnemucca in Pershing County, Nevada (see enclosed maps).

FCMI's existing plan of operations boundary is approximately 5,531 acres in size. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was completed in 1996 that analyzed the entire mine, including a new heap leach pad, expanded open pit mining and expanded waste rock facility in the areas to be disturbed under this expansion. Although analyzed in the 1996 EIS, these facilities were not constructed at that time. This proposed expansion would include updated variations of these same facilities.

The total surface disturbance for this expansion would be up to 1,087.5 acres (669.1 acres new disturbance) of combined public and private surface disturbance within a modified plan boundary, some of which is already disturbed with roads, a portion of a waste rock facility and other ancillary features.

Proposed activities include:

- a revised plan of operations boundary;
- expansion of the existing Phase 7 pit which includes Phase 4 Main and Jasperoid Hill pits;

- modification and expansion of the existing South Waste Rock Storage Facility;
- installation of a new heap leach pad (South Heap Leach Pad);
- installation of a crusher and associated yard; and
- installation of other ancillary features including four stormwater diversion channels and a dispersion ditch, two soil borrow pits, sediment pond, growth media and riprap stockpiles, haul and access roads and laydown areas.

The public is invited to submit comments relative to the development of an environmental assessment within 30 days of the date of this letter. Please send written comments to Mr. Mark Hall, project manager, at the above address, or e-mail [wfoweb@blm.gov](mailto:wfoweb@blm.gov) with Florida Canyon Mine Expansion (Hall) 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](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo/blm_information/nepa0.htm1). In addition, a copy of Florida Canyon's Amended Plan of Operations Number 20 is available for review at the Winnemucca District Office during regular business hours.

Public comments submitted for this modification, including names and addresses of commenters will be available for public review during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personnel identifying information in your comment, 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 Mr. Mark Hall at (775) 623-1500 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

\s\ Derek Messmer

Derek Messmer  
Field Manager  
Humboldt River Field Office