



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Tonopah Field Office

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http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field.html

SEP 26 2013

In Reply Refer To:

N-42341

DOI-BLM-NV-B020-2013-0062-EA

3100 (NVB0200)

Dear Interested Public:

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Battle Mountain District, Tonopah Field Office has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) which analyzes the impacts of construction of a land farm in Railroad Valley by Wesco Operating, Inc. (Wesco). The proposed project would be within the previously disturbed footprint of the closed B-Battery land farm, located in Section 35 of T. 9 N., R. 57 E., MDBM, Nye County, Nevada. Wesco has operated the Eagle Spring oil field since 2012. Wesco submitted a sundry notice to construct the above-ground land farm.

A land farm is a containment area where petroleum-contaminated soils are deposited for bioremediation. This remediation method involves spreading contaminated soils in a thin layer on the ground surface and stimulating aerobic microbial activity within the soils through aeration. The enhanced microbial activity results in degradation of absorbed petroleum constituents through microbial respiration.

The EA will be available for a 30-day public comment period. Written comments on this EA will be accepted at the above address until 4:30 p.m. (PST), October 18, 2013. The EA can be viewed on the BLM NEPA Register, which can be accessed through the BLM Battle Mountain District website at:

http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/battle_mountain_field.html

Under Links of interest, click on the link that reads "National NEPA Register Page." To navigate to the project, scroll down and select "Nevada" from the "State(s)" list, which will populate the "Office(s)" list; then select "NV- Tonopah FO." Under "Fiscal Year(s)" select "2013" and then click on the "Search" button on the left side of the screen. This will take you to a list of projects: find and select this project (DOI-BLM-NV-B020-2013-062-EA) to display the project webpage using the link on the left.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal

identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we would be able to do so.

If you have any questions or to obtain a hard copy of this document, please contact Mark Ennes, Assistant Field Manager, Non-Renewable Resources, at the above address, mennes@blm.gov or at (775) 482-7835.

Sincerely,

ts/ **TIMOTHY J. COWARD**

Timothy J. Coward
Field Manager