



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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In Reply Refer To:
3809 (NVB0100)
NVN-067881

SEP 21 2015

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Mount Lewis Field Office has issued a Decision Record (DR) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Environmental Assessment (EA) of the Amendment to Plan of Operations #NVN-067881 – Final Plan for Permanent Closure for the Tonkin Springs Mine (Plan), located approximately 40 miles northwest of the town of Eureka in Eureka County, Nevada. The decision of the Mount Lewis Field Manager, BLM Battle Mountain District, is to select the Proposed Action inclusive of applicant committed environmental protection measures of the Plan and specified in Section 2.5 of the EA, as the BLM's Preferred Alternative.

Tonkin Springs LLC (TSLLC), a wholly owned subsidiary of McEwen Mining Inc., submitted an Amendment to Plan of Operations #NVN-067881 – Final Plan for Permanent Closure for the Tonkin Springs Mine, dated February 10, 2014. The Plan includes closure modifications, relocation of sulfide ore stockpiles and waste rock back into the open pit, decommissioning and clean-closure of the existing tailings impoundment, and construction of a new evaporation pond for post-closure fluid management of pit seepage water and heap leach pad draindown.

The EA, Decision Letter, and FONSI are available on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) ePlanning webpage at: <http://1.usa.gov/1iJRyTv> and a hardcopy of these documents are available for review at the Battle Mountain District Office at 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, NV during regular business hours 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, except federal holidays (Please note: the electronic version of the EA is a large .pdf and may take a few minutes to load).

If you have any questions or require clarification on this EA, please call Chris Worthington, Planning and Environmental Coordinator at (775) 635-4144.

Sincerely,

Jon D. Sherve
Field Manager
Mount Lewis Field Office