



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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Date Stamped: 10 Feb 2016

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking public comment on a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) for the City of Winnemucca Waste Treatment Project. The PEA evaluates the City of Winnemucca's proposal for a new, more efficient facility that would be constructed approximately 3.6 miles northwest of the existing facilities. The City of Winnemucca has submitted a Recreation and Public Purpose (R&PP) application to the Bureau of Land Management for two sections of public land (approximately 1220 acres) that would be used for the construction and operation of the new facility. The existing facility, which is approximately 50 years old, is located about 500 feet from the Humboldt River within the 100 year flood-plain. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has expressed concerns with the location and condition of the existing treatment facility in regards to potential groundwater contamination.

The proposed project would consist of the following:

- A new wastewater treatment plant:
- Rapid Infiltration Basins (RIB):
- Groundwater well:
- An Influent Pumping Station (IPS):
- Influent pipeline:
- Groundwater monitoring wells.
- Irrigation pivots

The existing raw wastewater pipeline is the only existing facility component that would be incorporated into the new facility. Once the new facility is in operation, planned for mid 2017, the existing facility, with the exception of the raw wastewater pipeline, would be decommissioned and reclaimed.

The public is invited to submit comments on the PEA within 30 days of the date of this letter. Please send written comments to Mr. Kurt Miers, project lead, at the above address, or e-mail wfoweb@blm.gov with City of Winnemucca (Miers) in the subject line. The PEA, and this letter are available on the Winnemucca BLM's e-Planning webpage at <http://1.usa.gov/1SEeBP0>. In addition, a copy of City of Winnemucca PEA is available for review at the Winnemucca District Office during regular business hours.

Public comments submitted for this project, 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 personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Kurt Miers at (775) 623-1500 or at the above address.

Sincerely,

/S/ Steve Sappington

Steve Sappington
Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office