

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION - Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

Web Posting: 09/07/2016

Deadline for Comment: 10/07/2016

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection (the Division) gives notice that an application for a renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit for the **Argenta Mine and Mill**, a mining and beneficiation facility, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The Applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit **NEV0091045** (Permit) is:

**Baker Hughes Drilling Fluids
P.O. Box 277
Battle Mountain, NV 89820**

The facility is located on public and private land in Lander County, within Sections 6, 18 and 19, Township 32 North, Range 47 East (T32N, R47E), Sections 13 and 24, T32N, R46E, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 11 miles northeast of the town of Battle Mountain, Nevada.

The Project consists of a barite mine and a physical separation facility, pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 445A.414, designed to extract barite, with a maximum permitted production rate of 315,360 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of surface mines, waste rock and tailings impoundment facilities, barite ore stockpile areas, monitoring wells, a process plant for concentrating barite and a packaging facility. Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated, and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to either issue the renewed Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed Permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the Permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to NAC 445A.403, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests by hand delivery or US Postal Service, or by facsimile or e-mail transmittal, no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice (submittal end date 7 October 2016) to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701-5249

All comments, objections, or requests received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding the Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to Nevada Revised Statute 445A.665. For more information, contact Natasha Zittel at (775) 687-9413 or visit the Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/index.htm>.