

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[LLNVE02000.L19900000.EX0000; MO: 4500011512; 10-08807; TAS: 14X1109]

Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Newmont Mining Corporation Emigrant Project Plan of Operation, Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Newmont Mining Corporation Emigrant Project Plan of Operations and by this notice is announcing its availability.

DATES: The BLM will not issue a final decision on the proposal for a minimum of 30 days from the date that the Environmental Protection Agency publishes this notice in the **Federal Register**.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the EIS for the Newmont Mining Corporation Emigrant Project Plan of Operation are available for public inspection at the BLM Tuscarora Field Office, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada. Interested persons may also review the Final EIS at the following Web site: http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/elko_field_office.html.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Schmidt, BLM Project Manager (775) 753-0200; by mail at Bureau of Land Management, Tuscarora Field Office, Attn: Emigrant Mine Project Manager, 3900 East Idaho Street, Elko, Nevada 89801; or by e-mail tom_schmidt@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Newmont Mining Corporation submitted a proposed Plan of Operations to the BLM on February 4, 2004 to open the Emigrant Mine about 10 miles south of Carlin, Nevada. The proposed Emigrant Mine would include developing and operating an open pit mine, constructing a waste rock disposal facility, storing waste rock in mined out areas of the pit, developing an oxide heap leach pad; constructing ancillary facilities, rerouting intermittent stream flows in the pit area, and conducting concurrent reclamation. Proposed mining operations would last for approximately 10 years with an additional 4 years of closure operations.

Approximately 1,170 acres of public land and 248 acres of private land would be disturbed.

The issues analyzed in the Final EIS include the potential impacts to wildlife and cultural resources, the potential for waste rock, heap leach, and pit walls to produce acid rock drainage and/or heavy metals, and the proposed diversion of a drainage. Indirect and cumulative impacts are addressed for air quality, water, soil, vegetation, wildlife, fisheries and aquatic resources, threatened, endangered, candidate, and sensitive species recreation, livestock grazing, social and economic values, visual resources, cultural and Native American religious site concerns. Additional resource analysis includes geology and minerals, paleontology, lands and realty, wilderness, weeds and environmental justice.

The analysis in the Final EIS reflects modifications to the proposed plan of operations as a result of new information. As a result of the NEPA review process, an Adaptive Management Plan was developed to monitor performance of the operations plan and prevent impacts. The BLM originally published a Notice of Availability of the Draft EIS in the **Federal Register** on March 25, 2005 (70 FR 15346). In response to substantive comments on the 2005 Draft EIS, the BLM issued a revised Draft EIS in 2008 that replaced the 2005 Draft EIS. A Notice of Availability for the 2008 Draft EIS was published in the **Federal Register** on November 19, 2008 (73 FR 69675). The 2008 Draft EIS incorporated revisions made in response to substantive comments received on the 2005 Draft EIS. The 2008 Draft EIS analyzed the proposed action and no action alternatives. Other alternatives considered and reasons why they were eliminated from detailed analysis are discussed in the Final EIS. Measures to avoid or minimize environmental impacts and to assure the proposed action does not result in undue or unnecessary degradation of public lands are also included. The BLM received 15 comments from the public. These comments included concerns about what methods would be used to classify waste rock as potentially acid generating and non-potentially acid generating. In response to these comments, the Final EIS includes an Adaptive Management Plan in the monitoring program to continually monitor and evaluate the performance of the waste rock management plan proposed for this project and respond to any unforeseen surface and/or groundwater impacts.

Comments on the 2008 Draft EIS received from the public and from an

internal BLM review were considered and incorporated as appropriate into the proposed plan of operations and the Final EIS. Public comments resulted in the addition of clarifying text and the inclusion of the Adaptive Management Plan.

Authority: 40 CFR 1506.6 and 1506.10.

Kenneth E. Miller,
Manager, Elko District.

[FR Doc. 2010-31646 Filed 12-16-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**Bureau of Land Management**

[LLNV912000.L10200000.PH0000.LXSS006F 241A; 11-08807; MO# 4500019213; TAS: 14X1109]

Notice of public meeting: Resource Advisory Councils, Nevada

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of Public Meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Nevada will hold a joint meeting of its three Resource Advisory Councils (RACs), the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin RAC, the Northeastern Great Basin RAC, and the Mojave-Southern Great Basin RAC in Sparks, Nevada. The meeting is open to the public and a public comment period will be available.

DATES AND TIMES: Thursday, January 20, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, January 21, 2011, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A public comment period will be held early in the afternoon on Thursday, January 20. The time for the comment period will be posted on the Web and the agenda will be available two weeks days prior to the meeting at <http://www.blm.gov/nv>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rochelle Francisco, telephone: (775) 861-6588, e-mail: rochelle_francisco@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The three 15-member Nevada councils advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the BLM Nevada State Director, on a variety of planning and management issues associated with public land management in Nevada. The meeting will be held at John Ascuaga's Nugget, 1100 Nugget Avenue, Sparks, Nevada. Agenda topics include a presentation and discussion of accomplishments

during 2010 and the outlook for 2011 for the BLM in Nevada; opening remarks and closeout reports of the three RACs; breakout meetings of each group category; breakout meetings of the three RACs; discussion of a recreation subgroup of the existing RACs; and setting of schedules for meetings of the individual RACs for the upcoming year. The public may provide written comments to the three RAC groups or the individual RACs. Individuals who plan to attend and need further information about the meeting or need special assistance such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodation may contact Rochelle Francisco.

Ron Wenker,
State Director, Nevada.

[FR Doc. 2010-31786 Filed 12-16-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

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Notice of Public Meeting, North Slope Science Initiative—Science Technical Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Alaska State Office, North Slope Science Initiative, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI)—Science Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) will meet as indicated below:

DATES: The meeting will be held January 24–27, 2011, in Fairbanks, Alaska. The meetings will begin at 9 a.m. each day, at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, International Arctic Research Center, Room 401. Public comment will be received between 3 and 4 p.m. on Wednesday, January 26, 2011.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John F. Payne, Executive Director, North Slope Science Initiative, AK-910, c/o Bureau of Land Management, 222 W. Seventh Avenue, #13, Anchorage, AK 99513, (907) 271-3431 or e-mail john_f_payne@blm.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NSSI-STAP provides advice and recommendations to the NSSI Oversight Group regarding priority information needs for management decisions across the North Slope of Alaska. These

priority information needs may include recommendations on inventory, monitoring, and research activities that contribute to informed land management decisions. The topics to be discussed at the meeting include:

- Emerging issue summaries from the STAP, including restoration/reclamation, cultural and Arctic fisheries.
- Planning for an NSSI workshop to be held in Barrow on March 29–31, 2011.
- Update on the project tracking system, database and public Web site.
- NSSI priority recommendations on implementing the emerging issues.
- Other topics the Oversight Group or STAP may raise.

All meetings are open to the public. The public may present written comments to the Science Technical Advisory Panel through the Executive Director, North Slope Science Initiative. Each formal meeting will also have time allotted for hearing public comments. Depending on the number of persons wishing to comment and time available, the time for individual oral comments may be limited. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance, such as sign language interpretation, transportation, or other reasonable accommodations, should contact the Executive Director, North Slope Science Initiative.

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 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 will be able to do so.

Dated: December 9, 2010.

Bud C. Cribley,

Alaska State Director.

[FR Doc. 2010-31663 Filed 12-16-10; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[LLNMA02000-L1430000.ET0000;
NMNM77967]

Notice of Proposed Withdrawal Extension and Opportunity for Public Meeting, New Mexico

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management proposes to extend the duration of Public Land Order (PLO) No. 6845 for an additional 20-year term. PLO No. 6845 withdrew 200 acres of public land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, to protect the archaeological values at the Arroyo del Tajo Pictograph Site. This notice gives an opportunity to comment on the proposed action and request a public meeting.

DATES: Comments and requests for a public meeting must be received by March 17, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Comments and meeting requests should be sent to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Socorro Field Office Field Manager, 901 S. Hwy 85, Socorro, New Mexico 87801.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann D. Sullivan, BLM Socorro Field Office, 901 S. Hwy 85, Socorro, New Mexico 87801, or at 575-835-0412.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The withdrawal created by PLO No. 6845 (56 FR 14865 (1991)) will expire April 11, 2011, unless extended. PLO No. 6845 is incorporated herein by reference. The BLM has filed a petition/application to extend PLO No. 6845 for an additional 20-year term. The withdrawal was made to protect the archaeological values at the Arroyo del Tajo Pictograph Site and surrounding area from deterioration, for research purposes, and for interpretation as described in the PLO. The area aggregates 200 acres in Socorro County, New Mexico.

The use of a right-of-way, interagency, or cooperative agreement would not adequately constrain nondiscretionary uses which could result in the permanent loss of significant values and irreplaceable cultural resources.

No water rights would be needed to fulfill the purpose of the requested withdrawal extension.

There are no suitable alternative sites available since the lands described herein have specific archaeological values that are not found in any nearby areas.

Records relating to the application may be examined by contacting Ann D. Sullivan or Danita Burns of the BLM Socorro Field Office at the above address or phone number.

For a period of 90 days from the date of publication of this notice, all persons who wish to submit comments, suggestions, or objections in connection with the proposed withdrawal extension may present their views in writing to the BLM Socorro Field Office Field