

**Amendment to the Plan of Operations
(NVN-70708) and Reclamation Permit
(0026) for the Expansion of the Betze
Pit, the Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings
Facility and the Clydesdale Waste
Rock Facility**

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Executive Summary

This *Amendment to the Plan of Operations and Reclamation Permit for the Expansion of the Betze Pit, Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility and the Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility* (the Amendment) for the Betze Pit Expansion, the Goldstrike No. 3 tailings facility expansion, and the construction of the Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility has been prepared by Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc. (BGMI) in compliance with the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulations (43 C.F.R. Subpart 3809) and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) regulations governing the reclamation of mined lands (NAC 519A.010-635). Mining activities will be located in Eureka County, Nevada on both unpatented mining claims on public lands administered by the Elko Field Office of the BLM and private land controlled by BGMI. The purpose of this proposal is to extend the life of the Goldstrike Mine by mining additional ore from the Betze Pit.

Surface impacts of mining on public lands are subject to the BLM regulations set forth at 43 C.F.R. Subpart 3809. The 3809 regulations do not apply to the private lands in this proposal. 43 C.F.R. § 3809.2(d). Those regulations also state, however, that “for purposes of analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, BLM may collect information about private land that is near to, or may be affected by, operations under the [regulations.] 43 C.F.R. § 3809.2(d). For purposes of regulatory authority, this plan distinguishes between public and private lands that will be disturbed by proposed activities, but acknowledges that, for NEPA purposes, BLM’s review is likely to look beyond the proposed activities on public lands. The proposed plan complies with both BLM and NDEP regulatory requirements.

Nevada laws govern the reclamation of private and public lands in the state of Nevada (NRS 519A.100). These laws define reclamation as actions that will:

“ . . . shape, stabilize, revegetate or otherwise treat the land in order to return it to a safe, stable condition consistent with the establishment of a productive post-mining use of the land and the safe abandonment of a facility in a manner which ensures the public safety, as well as the encouragement of techniques which minimize the adverse visual effects.”

The proposed activities will be located primarily in the Goldstrike plan area (BLM case file # 923 and Reclamation Permit 0026). Reclamation costs for the proposed activities will be provided under Reclamation Permit No. 0026.

The format for this Plan is consistent with the State of Nevada Permit for Reclamation application form that has been determined acceptable to the BLM for their plans of operations in accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding* between the BLM, NDEP, and the United States Forest Service.

As required by NEPA, environmental analyses were prepared prior to the development of Betze Pit and associated facilities (*Final Environmental Impact Statement Betze Project*. BLM 1991), the *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Betze Project, Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.* (SEIS) (January 2003). The Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility was analyzed as an alternative in the 1990 EIS. The effect of dewatering the Betze Pit was analyzed in the SEIS dated January 2003.

Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc. is located in Eureka County (Plan Area). BGMI is authorized to disturb 7,771 acres (847 acres of public land and 6,924 acres of private land) within the authorized Goldstrike Plan of Operations boundary associated with pits, waste rock facilities, heap leaching, tailings facilities, process buildings, roads, and growth media stockpiles.

Facilities that are required for the proposed Project are as follows:

- An expansion of the existing Betze Pit to include a layback to the north and west with associated in-pit and perimeter haul roads;
- The construction of a waste rock facility on the Clydesdale Block and associated access road and stream crossing; and,
- Construction and operation of the Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility.

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1 Applicant Information

1.1. Name & Business Address of Individual Completing Application

Name: Mr. Vern Baker
Title: General Manager
Business Name: Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.
Business Address: P.O. Box 29
Elko, Nevada 89803
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

1.2. Corporation Information

Owner Information: Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.
P.O. Box 29
Elko, Nevada 89803

President Information:
Full Name: Mr. Gregory A. Lang
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City: Salt Lake City
State: Utah
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Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

Treasurer Information:
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City: Salt Lake City
State: Utah
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Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

1.3. Taxpayer ID Number

Taxpayer ID Number: [REDACTED]

1.4. Registered Agent

Nevada Registered Resident Agent Information:

Name: Mr. Vern Baker
Title: General Manager
Business Name: Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.
Business Address: P.O. Box 29
Elko, Nevada 89803
Telephone Number: [REDACTED]

1.5. Authorized Field Representative Information

BGMI personnel, or their agents, will be on-site during Project related activities and will be responsible for implementing and ensuring that all activities are completed in accordance with federal and state statutes and regulations.

2 Existing and Proposed Operations

2.1 List of BLM Claims and Serial Numbers

The proposed mining and related surface disturbance will be conducted on claims owned, leased, or controlled by BGMI on BLM administered public lands or on private land controlled by BGMI. A further description of the property including ownership information, claim names, BLM serial numbers, and legal descriptions are provided in Appendix 1.

2.2 Land Status

The existing BGMI operations are located approximately 25 miles northwest of Carlin, Nevada in Eureka and Elko counties (Figure 1). Table 2-1 presents the legal description of the Plan Area. Figure 2 presents the land status in the Project Area.

Table 2-1: Legal Description of Plan Area

Township	Range	Section
36N	49E	13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25
36N	50E	17, 18, 19, 20

Natural surface water drainages within the existing and proposed disturbance areas or within one-half mile down gradient of the existing and proposed disturbances include Rodeo Creek, Brush Creek, and Bell Creek.

2.2.1 Access

BGMI's existing gold mining operations and the proposed Project are located in Eureka and Elko counties, Nevada and can be reached from Elko, Nevada by traveling west on Interstate 80 to Exit 280 at Carlin, then traveling north 11 miles on State Highway 766, west eight miles on the paved county road, and then north five miles on an unpaved county road.

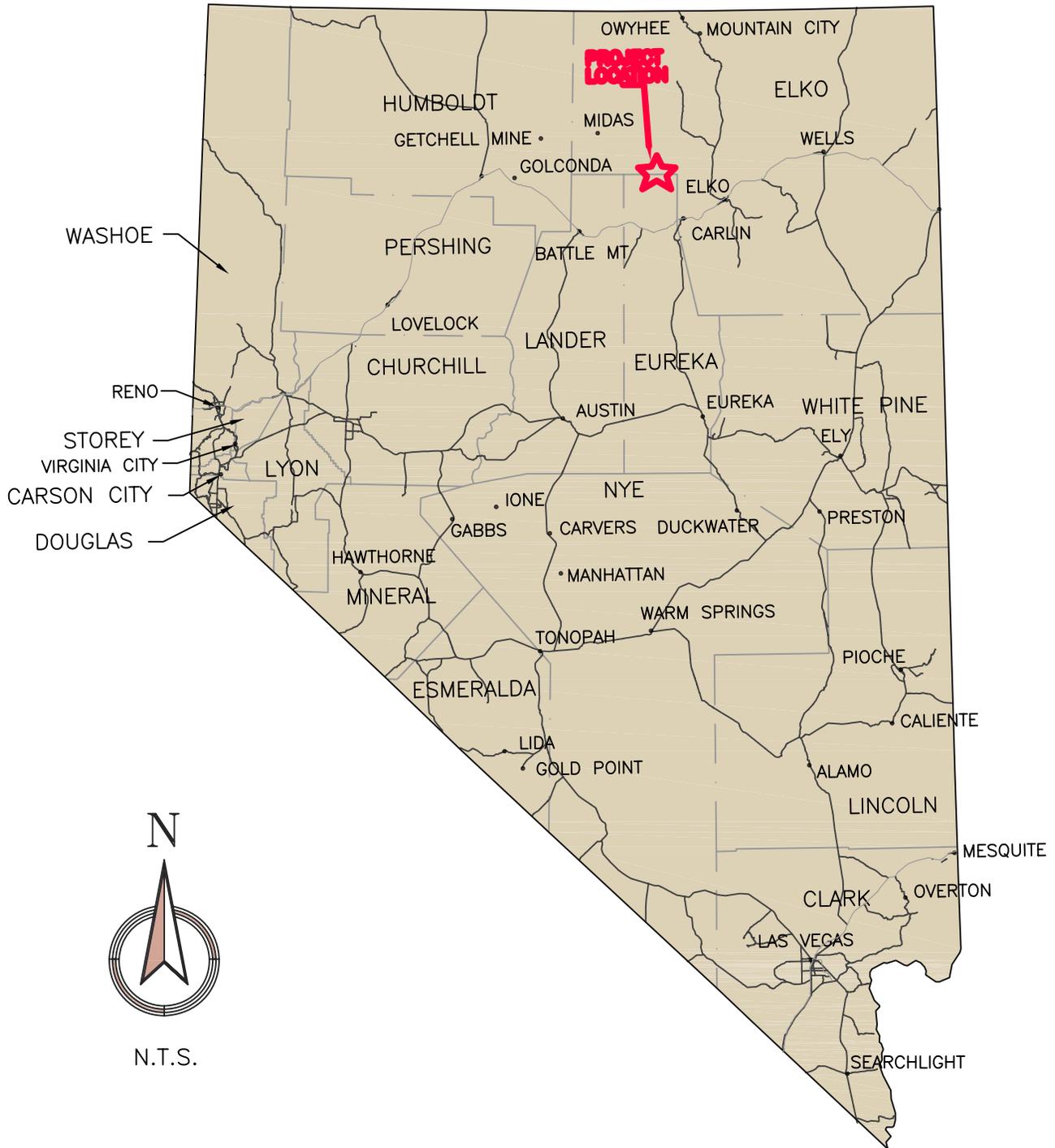


FIGURE 1



BARRICK

GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
GENERAL LOCATION

PREPARED BY:



SCALE: AS SHOWN

DWG

DATE: DEC. 19, 2006

Disturbance from Past and Present Operators

Existing disturbance in the Project Area is shown on Figure 2. No disturbance remains from past operators. Existing disturbance in the Project Area has resulted from ongoing mining operations. Pre-1981 disturbance by other operators has been consumed by disturbance authorized for the Goldstrike Operations.

2.3 Existing Operations

Existing activities at the Goldstrike Mine include open pit and underground mining; milling with associated tailings disposal facilities; a mill, roaster, and autoclave facilities with associated support facilities; and ancillary facilities. The Mine is essentially located on private land controlled by BGMI with the exception of a small parcel on the North Block tailings storage facility embankment and the roaster ore stockpile, and two parcels located on the Bazza Waste Rock Facility. The Goldstrike Mine is authorized to disturb up to 6,924 acres of private and 847 acres of public land. Table 2-2 presents the authorized disturbance for the Goldstrike Mine.

Table 2-2: Authorized Disturbance for the Goldstrike Mine

Facility	Public (acres)	Private (acres)	Total
Waste rock disposal areas	288	2,555	2,843
Heap leach pads	0	256	256
Tailings facilities	100	1,204	1,304
Surface facilities	0	99	99
Yards and Access	371	561	932
Post Mill 4 surface disturbance	9	202	211
Ponds	0	43	43
Haul and access roads	55	166	221
Sediment control	0	274	274
Water treatment facilities	5	152	157
Sand Dune Springs recirculation system	0	11	11
Boulder Valley discharge facility	0	8	8
Pit	19	1,393	1,412
Total	847	6,924	7,771

Source: Reclamation Permit 0026

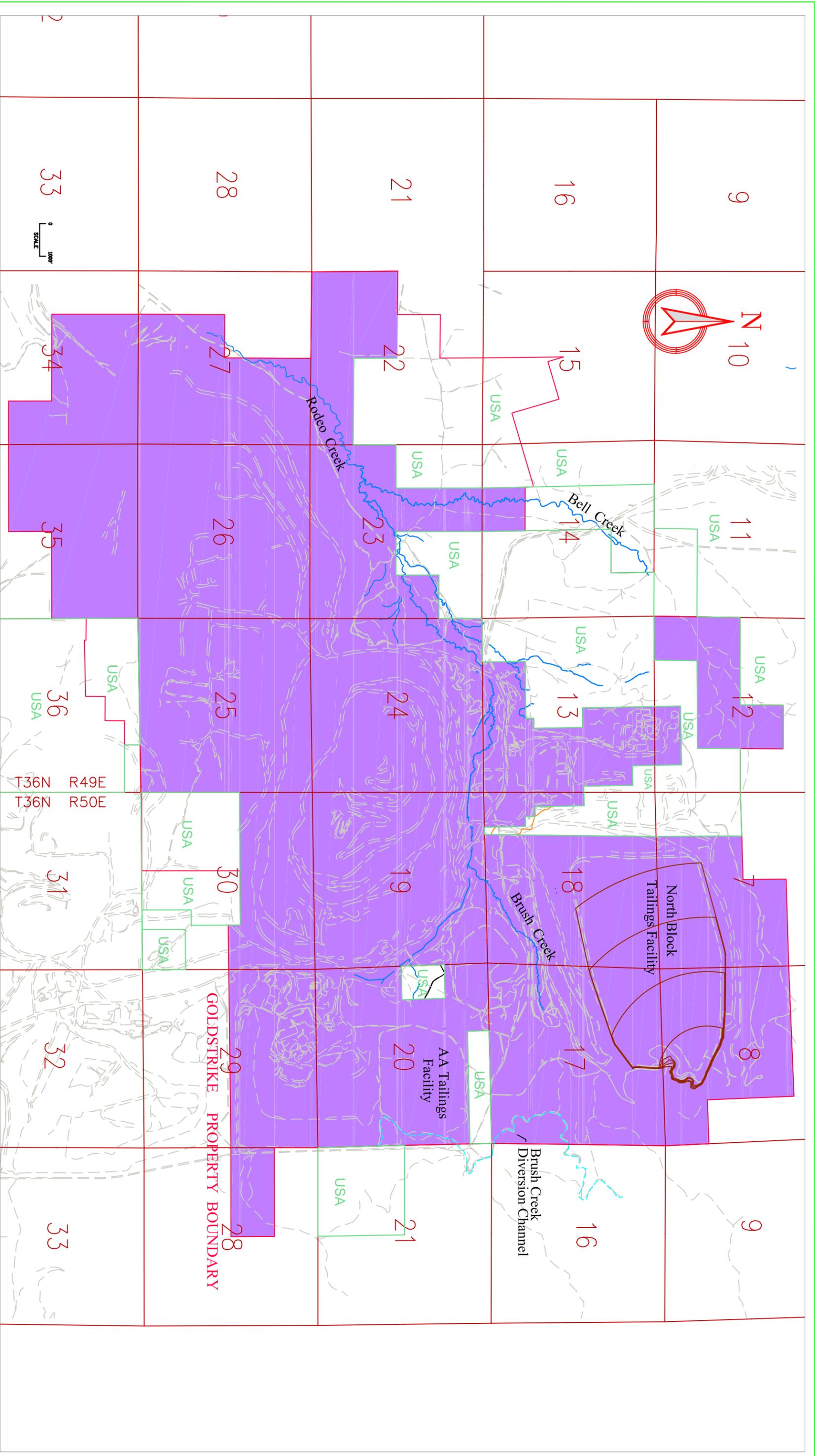


FIGURE 2

BARRICK
 GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
 LAND STATUS AND
 EXISTING DISTURBANCE

PREPARED BY:
SRK Consulting
 Engineers and Scientists
 SCALE: AS SHOWN
 DWG NAME:
 DATE: DEC. 19, 2008

Existing disturbance on the Clydesdale Block includes exploration roads and related disturbance. Existing disturbances on the pit layback area includes roads and dewatering well fields. Existing disturbances within the footprint of the No. 3 Tailing Facility include the Mill 4 Tailing Disposal Facility, former mill site and associated roads. Table 2-3 presents a description of the existing disturbance in the vicinity of the layback.

2.4 Proposed Operations

Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc. is proposing to construct the following facilities shown on Figure 3:

- An expansion of the existing Betze Pit to include two laybacks to the north and west with associated in-pit and perimeter haul roads;
- The construction of a waste rock facility on the Clydesdale Block and associated access road and stream crossing; and,
- Construction and operation of the Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility

Table 2-3 presents a summary of surface disturbance associated with the proposed amendment. Some of the land under the proposed facilities has been previously disturbed; Table 2-3 shows the change of use from one category to another and the net change in disturbance.

2.4.1 Pit Laybacks

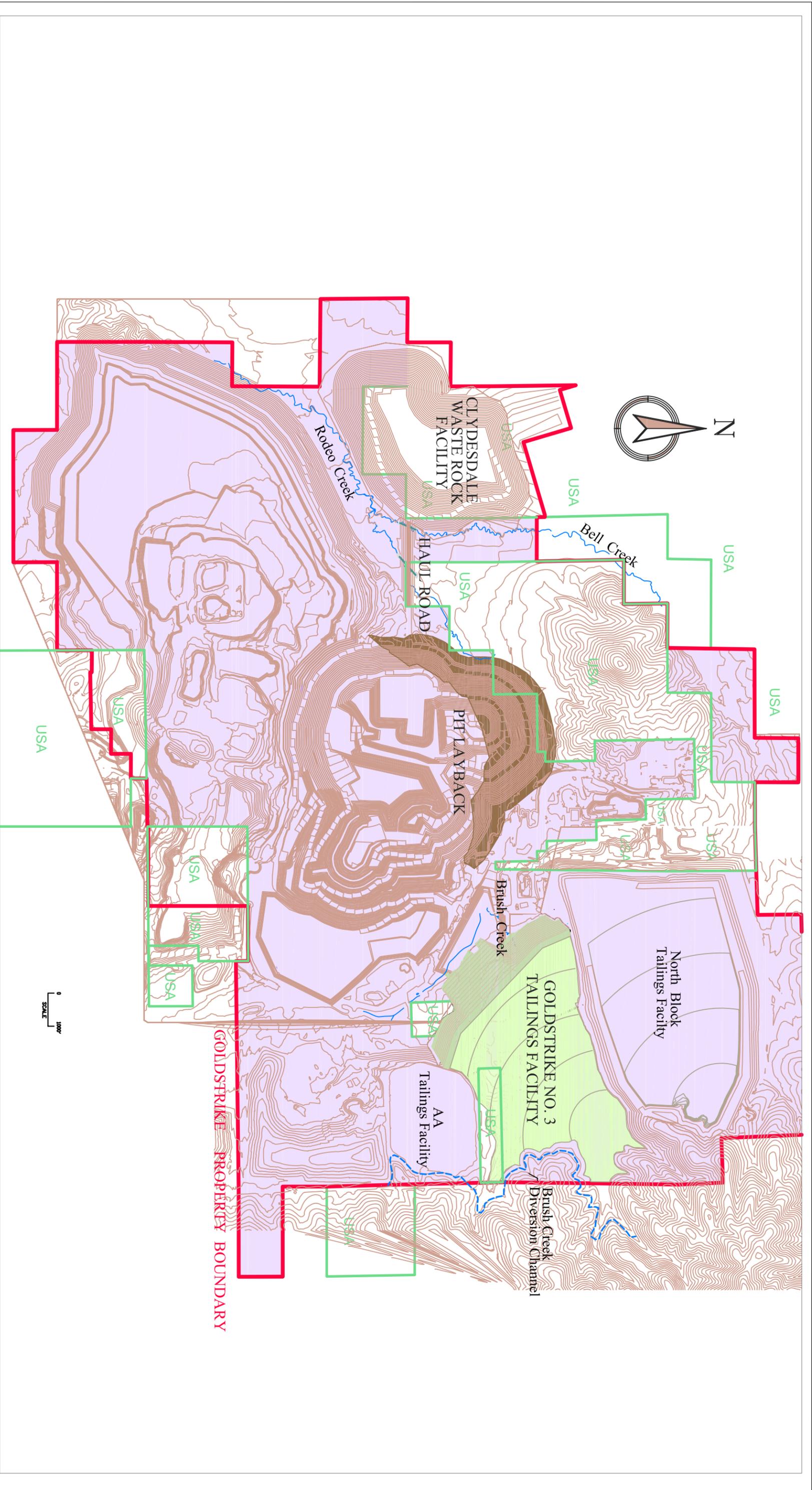
Two contiguous pit laybacks are proposed: the 2nd NW and the 3rd NW. Portions of both laybacks will be on public land and private land as shown in Figure 4; approximately 50 acres will be located on public land and 247 acres will be located on private land. Mining of the 2nd NW layback will be undertaken in 2012 and will be followed by the 3rd NW layback in 2013. BGMI will use conventional open pit mining methods (truck and shovel), similar to those used presently at the Betze Pit. Mining of the Betze Pit will be completed approximately in 2015. The pit floor is projected to be at an elevation of 4,510 feet (Barrick datum) which is above the pit elevation of 3,600 feet (Barrick datum) or 3,575 feet amsl (U.S. Geological Survey datum).

Both potentially acid generating (PAG) and non-PAG waste rock will be removed, as well as ore. The majority of the PAG material mined from this expansion will be placed as backfill within the pit under the projected post-mining water level. Approximately 20 percent of the PAG material will be placed in the Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility. Non-PAG material mined from the expansion will be placed in the proposed Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility, in existing storage facilities, or used to construct the proposed Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility,

Table 2-3: Authorized and Proposed Disturbance for the Proposed Amendment

Component	Authorized Disturbance			Proposed Disturbance			Net Disturbance Change Acres
	Public Acres	Private Acres	Total Existing Acres	Public Acres	Private Acres	Total Proposed Acres	
Pit Laybacks	-	-	-	49.5	246.5	296.0	296.0
Roads/well fields in layback area	7.1	79.2	86.3	-	-	-	(86.3)
Goldstrike No. 3 TSF ¹		-	-	46.0	644.0	690.0	690.0
Mill #4 TSF and Disturbance	9.0	202.0	211.0	-	-	-	(211.0)
Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility	-	-	-	400.0	135.0	535.0	535.0
Access road to Clydesdale	-	-		14.1	22.7	36.8	36.8
Total	16.1	281.2	297.3	509.6	1,048.2	1,557.8	1,260.5

¹ Covers approximately 211 acres of existing Mill 4 tailings storage facility and other reclaimed but not released areas authorized by BLM and NDEP.



- LEGEND**
- PIT LAYBACK AREA
 - PROPOSED TAILINGS
 - PROPOSED CULVERTS
 - BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE PROPERTY BOUNDARY
 - BARRICK SURFACE DIVERSION
 - EXISTING DRAINAGES

FIGURE 3

BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
EXISTING DISTURBANCE AND
PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

PREPARED BY:
SRK Consulting
Engineers and Scientists

SCALE: AS SHOWN
DWG NAME
DATE: JAN. 04, 2007

Mining will be conducted 24 hours per day and seven days per week. Table 2-4 presents the anticipated tonnage of material that will be removed from the proposed laybacks.

Table 2-4: Waste and Ore Tonnages (Millions of Tons)

	2nd NW Layback	3rd NW Layback	Total
Non-PAG Waste	125.5	186.0	311.5
PAG Waste	2.1	2.4	4.5
Carlin Material	0.5	0	0.5
Ore	5.3	7.1	12.4

Existing activities within the footprint of the proposed layback include dewatering wells, power distribution, haul and access roads.

Figure 4 shows the location of the laybacks and typical cross-sections. The layback area will range in depth from 1,140 feet to approximately 1,260 feet. Crest elevations will range from 5,290 feet to 5,230 feet. Benches will range from 20 to 60 feet in height, consistent with current bench heights. The layback areas will be approximately 4,300 feet long and approximately 1,100 feet wide at its maximum extent. The post-mining water level will be at an elevation of 5,140 feet amsl and will be intercepted by the proposed laybacks. About 12 acres of post-mining pit lake resulting from the proposed layback will be located on public land.

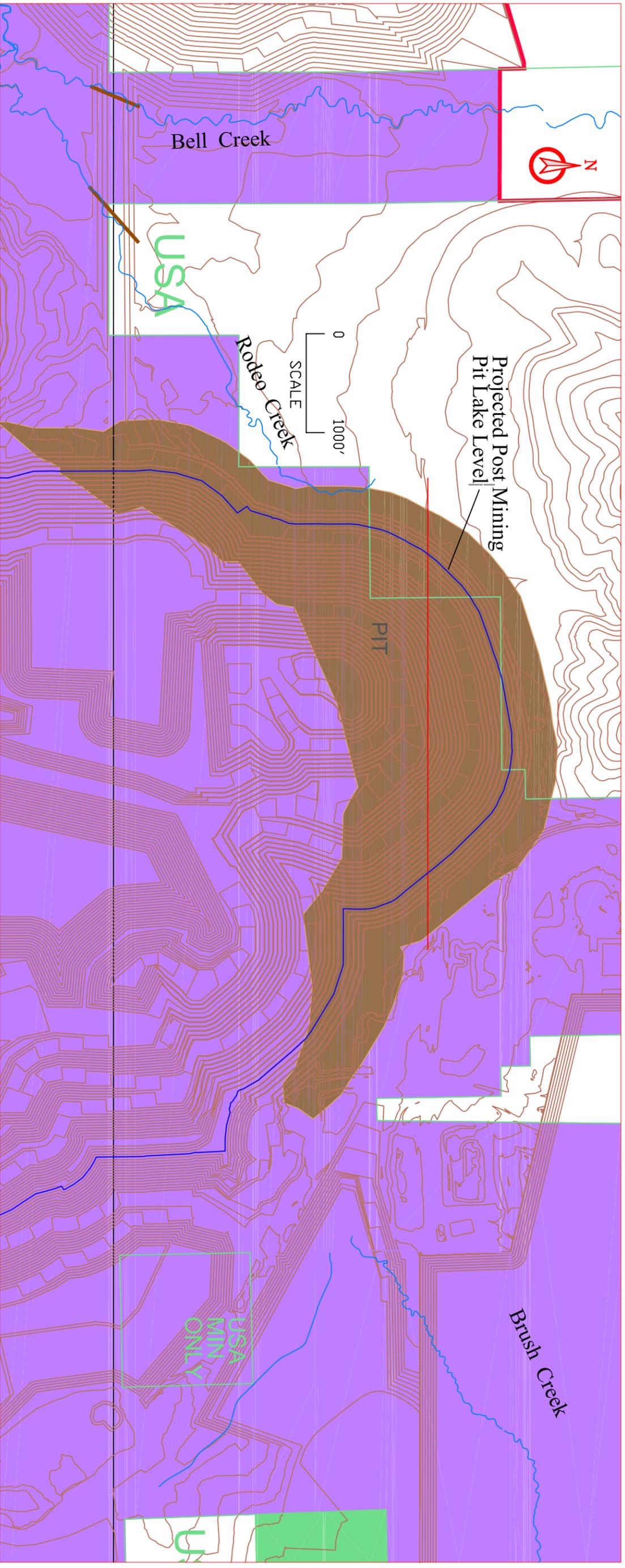
Surface mining will require drilling using diesel-powered and/or electric blast hole drill rigs. Blasting will utilize ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO), or blasting slurry during wet conditions. Blasting will be performed only during daylight hours and under strict safety procedures as required by Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the State of Nevada.

Explosives will be handled by licensed haulers and stored on site in compliance with the applicable Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE) and MSHA regulations. Federal, state, and county roads/highways will be used to transport explosives and other mining materials. All shippers will be licensed by the Department of Transportation and other appropriate agencies.

Haul roads associated with the proposed laybacks will have running widths of approximately 170 feet with berms consistent with the existing haul roads. These roads will be both in-pit and around the perimeter. BGMI conducted geological and geotechnical studies and monitoring for the existing pits. Planned highwalls conform to recommended slope design parameters and achieve a minimum nominal factor of safety (FOS) of 1.2. Initial slope analysis work has been completed for the ultimate pit on the north wall. Additional slope analysis work will be performed for the ultimate pit on the west and northwest wall, and will be completed by mid-2008. The final planned highwall will conform to recommended slope design parameters and will achieve a minimum nominal FOS of 1.2.

The western laybacks slopes generally exhibit favorable conditions due to improved rock mass strengths, structural geology and advanced depressurization of the rock mass. However, some adverse bedding orientations may require localized areas to have slightly flatter inter-ramp angles, compared to the rest of the layback, near the upper ramps.

The northwestern highwall of the ultimate pit is currently designed primarily at 38° to 42° inter-ramp angle. The overall slope angle, including the ramp system, is currently designed at 37° to 39°. The current design shows inter-ramp slope heights of 400 to 500 feet, with an overall slope height of 1,200 feet. If conditions allow, an inter-ramp slope angle up to 44° or more could be considered for this highwall.



PIT LAKE

PROJECTED POST MINING
PIT LAKE LEVEL

FIGURE 4



BARRICK

GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
PIT TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION



SRK Consulting
Engineers and Scientists

PREPARED BY:
SCALE: AS SHOWN
DATE: JAN. 04, 2007

Slope analyses and past experience indicates the potential to increase the inter-ramp slope angle for certain sections of highwall as mining progresses to the northwest.

Monitoring results confirm the pit wall stability. Geological, geotechnical, and hydrological conditions as well as safety constraints drive the proposed layback design. Open pit design is based on BGMI's experience in similar rock types, the results of geotechnical testing, monitoring and MSHA surface mining standards. As mining progresses, ongoing geotechnical evaluations will confirm the design assumptions. The geologic and geotechnical characteristics of the materials exposed during mining will be monitored regularly. Geologic structure mapping, groundwater monitoring, and slope stability analyses will be the basic elements of this geotechnical program. Slope movement monitoring will be initiated to evaluate the safety of open pit high walls. In addition, operational procedures for controlling blasting and bench scaling will facilitate mining of stable open pit walls.

A list of the equipment requirements for the proposed layback is provided below in Table 2-5. This equipment is presently operating at the pit. BGMI does not anticipate adding to the mobile equipment fleet as part of this proposed amendment.

Table 2-5: List of Mine Mobile Equipment

Type of Equipment	Equipment
Electric shovels (P&H 2800 and 4100 classes)	4
Hydraulic shovel (Hitachi 5500-class)	1
Haul trucks (300 ton)	35 to 40
Rotary blasthole drills	7 to 10
Track bulldozers	5
Rubber tired bulldozers	5
Graders	6
Water trucks	3

2.4.2 Dewatering

BGMI is presently dewatering at a rate of approximately 20,000 gallons per minute (gpm), down from the peak authorized rate of 70,000 gpm. The 2003 SEIS analyzed potential impacts for dewatering up to the year 2011. The proposed expansion of the Betze Pit will not require additional dewatering activities beyond the current authorization. The proposed expansion of the Betze Pit will not require any new dewatering wells.

2.4.3 Post-Mining Pit Lake

The predicted pit lake water quality was described most recently in a report submitted to NDEP (Schafer 2006). Regarding the predicted near-surface water quality, the report found that:

The pH of the lake system remains alkaline throughout filling, increasing slightly with time (from 8.1 to 8.9) due to the transition from a calcium-bicarbonate towards a sodium-bicarbonate type water. Sulfate concentration is highest during early stages of filling and decreases with time due to decreasing highwall rinse-off. Calcium also decreases with time due to formation of calcite. Removal of water for irrigation tends to reduce the TDS of the pit lake compared to the TDS that will occur without pumping.

Water contained in the pit lake will meet all primary drinking water standards except for antimony in year 400. The secondary drinking water standards will be met for all constituents except TDS, sulfate, fluoride and potentially manganese in early stages of filling. The sulfate standard may be met in the long term, however, if water is withdrawn for irrigation. The water meets all ecological risk benchmark levels established for Nevada pit lakes with the exception manganese in year 50. The salinity of the water is suitable for irrigation of alfalfa although a leaching fraction of 30 percent should be maintained to prevent salt accumulation in the soil root zone. The SAR will vary from 1.5 to 4.5, which is suitable for all soils. The irrigation water will have a slight to moderate limitation due to its boron level. The water is suitable for alfalfa, the primary crop grown, which is boron-tolerant.

Only minor variations in trace element concentration occur through time. Concentrations of trace elements in the pit lake are strongly controlled by pH and by the quantity of iron available for sorption. As the pH of lake increases from 8.1 to 8.9, and as the total quantity of iron decreases because of decreasing rinse-out of the weathering products from the highwall, the amount of sorption diminishes between year 50 and year 400. Consequently, predicted concentrations of arsenic and antimony increase slightly, while concentrations of zinc and nickel stay roughly the same because of their apparent solubility control by co-precipitation and precipitation as a silicate in addition to sorption. Manganese concentrations decrease throughout the life of the pit lake, probably due to decreasing proportional contributions from the highwalls and backfill.

The assumptions used in the 2003 pit lake study were as follows:

- Mining to continue until 2012.
- Approximately 570,000,000 tons of waste rock will be placed as pit backfill.
- Total inundated open pit volume of 360,000 acre feet when the lake is full.
- The Betze-Screamer pit lake lies in a small internally drained basin with a total acreage of 2,160 acres consisting of the mined pit floor and highwalls, backfill and a portion of the reclaimed waste rock pile. The waste rock pile consists of 620 acres or approximately 30 percent of the overall catchment area. The exposed backfill area is initially 772 acres prior to filling but the lake inundates 370 acres of backfill decreasing the exposed area to 402 acres when the pit lake recovers. The highwall area is similar to the backfill area.

The proposed expansion will increase the overall size of the pit lake and will proportionally increase the quantity of backfill from 570,000,000 tons to approximately 860,000,000 tons. The acid generation potential of rocks in the Betze Pit will decrease with increasing distance from the intrusive. Consequently, rocks mined in the expansion area, which are located at the edge of the existing pit that is most distant from the intrusive, will tend to have a higher net neutralization capacity than historically mined rocks. Additionally, in the proposed mine plan a smaller proportion of mined rocks and rocks exposed in the final pit wall will be potentially acid generating than was determined for the existing pit. As a consequence, the predicted water quality for the expanded pit should be similar or slightly better in quality than for the existing mine plan.

The pit water quality study will be revised in early 2007 to quantitatively assess the potential effects of the proposed expansion.

2.4.4 Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility

Waste rock from the layback will be placed in the existing waste rock storage facilities, the proposed Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility or as in-pit backfill. Figure 3 shows the location of the Clydesdale

storage facility, and Figure 5 shows a typical cross-section. The Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility will have the capacity to store up to approximately 350 million tons of both PAG and non-PAG waste rock. The proposed Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility will be constructed by end-dumping from haul trucks. The toe elevation will be approximately 5,190 feet amsl, and the crest elevation will be approximately 5,810 feet amsl for a height of approximately 500 feet. Where feasible, the waste rock storage facilities will be built as terraced structures to facilitate recontouring and reclamation. The bench heights will be in lifts of approximately 100 feet. During reclamation, the terraces will be incorporated into the overall reclaimed slope at 2.5H:1V on the north and west slopes and 2.8H:1V on the south and east slopes. A slope stability analysis is presented in Appendix 2. The *Waste Rock Management Plan* approved by NDEP is included in Appendix 3.

A haul road will be constructed from the pit to the Clydesdale waste rock storage facility. This road will be approximately 3,500 feet in length and have a running surface of approximately 170 feet in width and a total width of approximately 400 feet.

Construction of the Clydesdale waste rock storage haul road crossing over Rodeo and Bell creeks will require culverts with inlet and outlet erosion protection. The culverts will be designed to safely handle flows of the 100-year/24-hour storm event. The haul road will cross the drainages at two points, the Bell Creek crossing and the Rodeo/Brush Creek crossing. Corrugated metal pipes (CMP) culverts will be placed at the Rodeo/Brush Creek crossing and the Bell Creek crossing. The Rodeo/Brush Creek crossing may require construction of catch channels to congregate the main Rodeo/Brush Creek flow as well as small tributaries that feed the creek downstream of planned haul road placement. The inlets and outlets for the culverts will be ripraped to minimize erosion and damage to the natural stream channel. Figure 6 presents typical culvert sections.

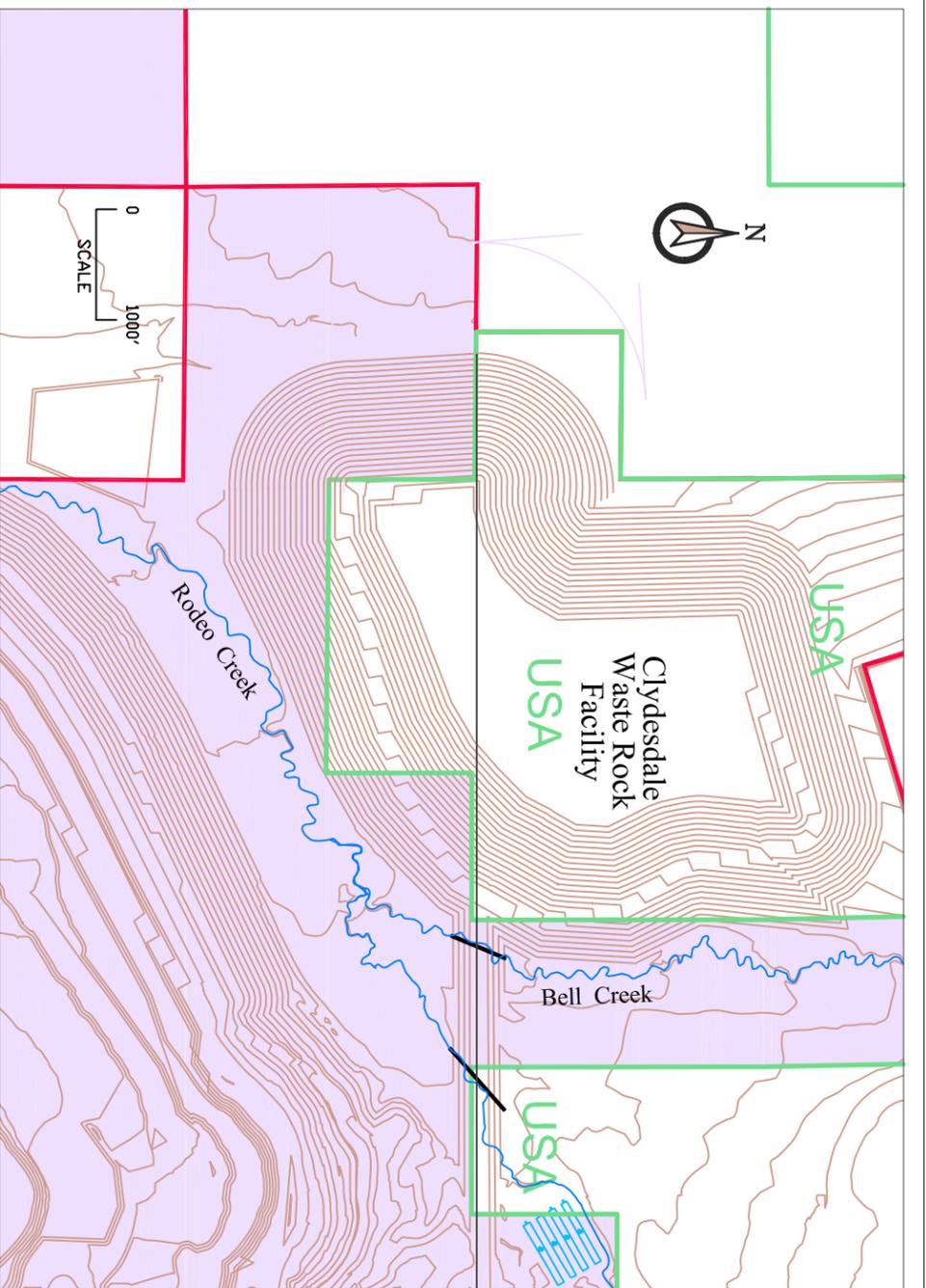
As culvert inlets and outlets typically experience greater erosional impact, due to pooling at the inlet and higher exit velocities at the outlet, riprap will be placed for erosion protection. Outlet protection will provide an area for the flow energy to reduce to a level consistent with stable conditions downstream.

These culverts, crossings, and other disturbances in and around the drainages do not trigger permit requirements under Section 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act because on November 20, 2006, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers issued a determination that Boulder, Bell, Brush and Rodeo creeks are non-jurisdictional waters not regulated under Section 404.

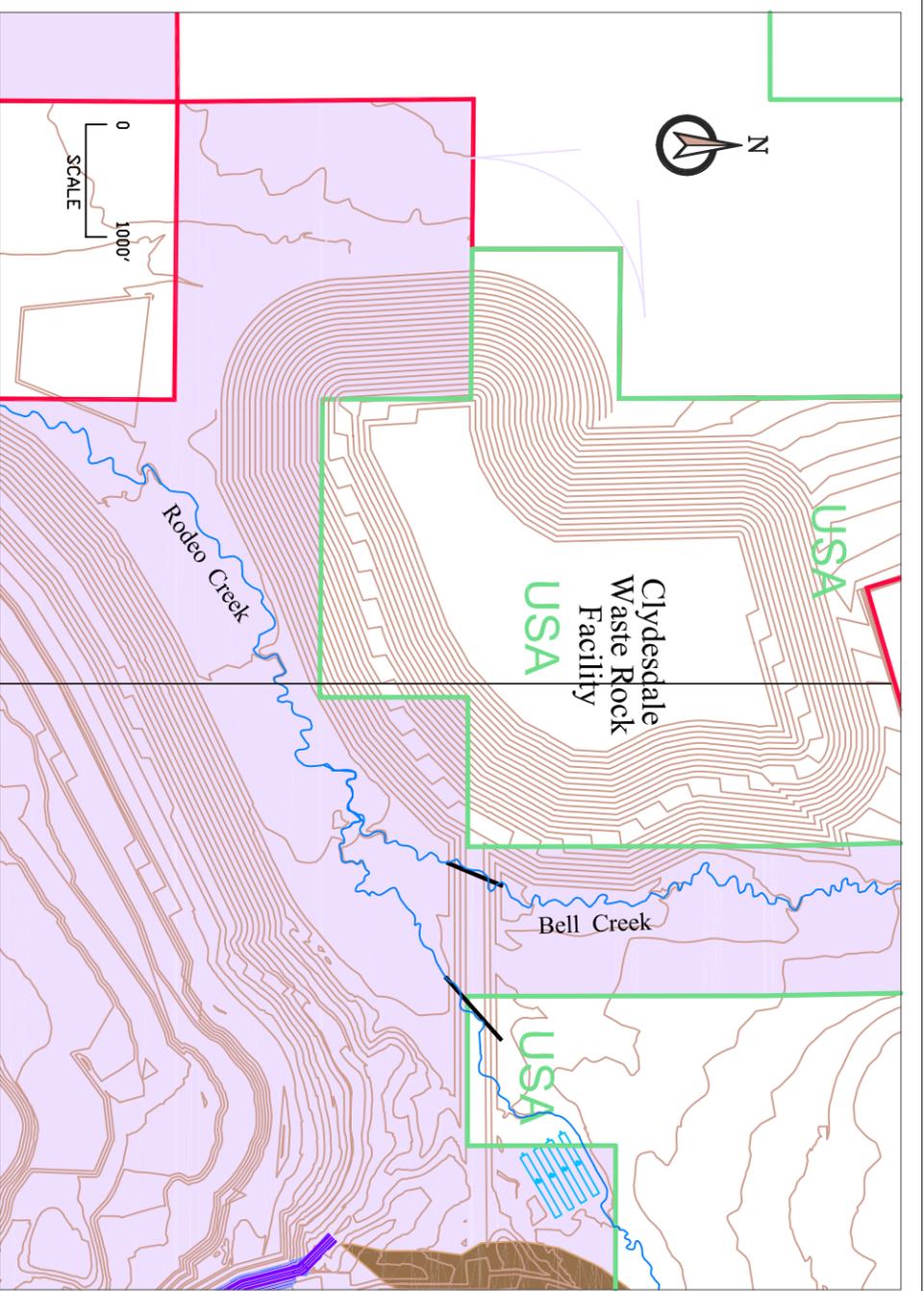
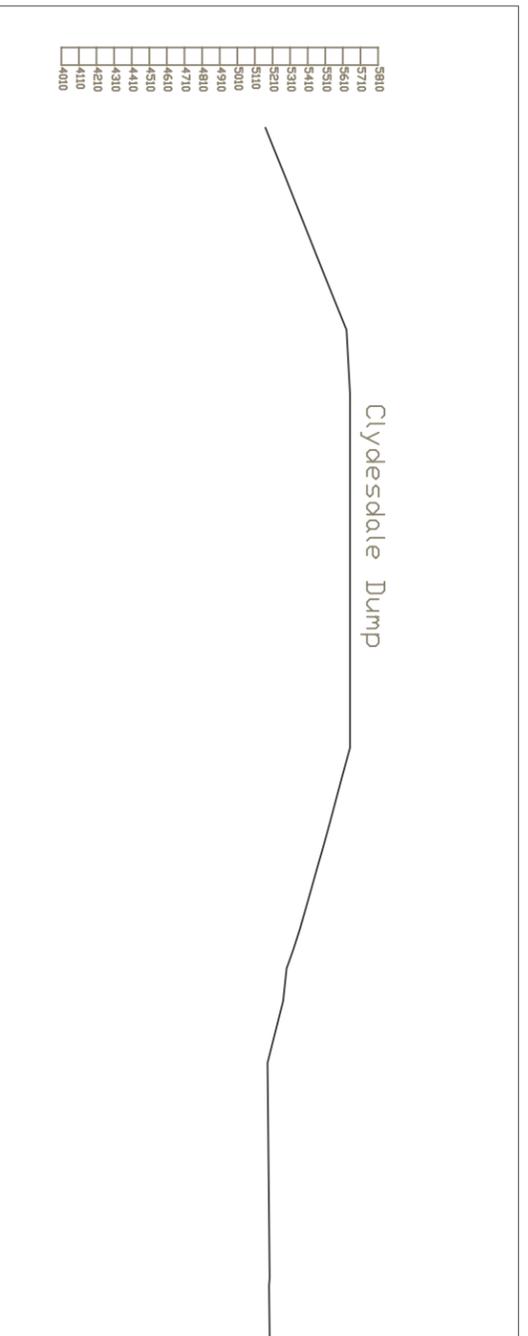
A Quality Assurance Plan will be submitted to BLM prior to construction.

2.4.5 Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility

BGMI has completed a preliminary (feasibility-level) design of a new tailings storage facility at the Goldstrike Mine. Following the completion of a siting study, the preferred location selected for the tailings facility is within the Brush Creek drainage, north of the existing AA Tailings Impoundment and south of the North Block Tailings Facility as shown in Figure 3. The location of the dam will require constructing a portion of the embankment over the existing (inactive) Mill 4 tailings impoundment. Barrick plans to operate the impoundment beginning in 2011. The following provides an overview of the design, construction, operation, maintenance, and closure of the proposed Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility.



EAST-WEST SECTION



NORTH-SOUTH SECTION

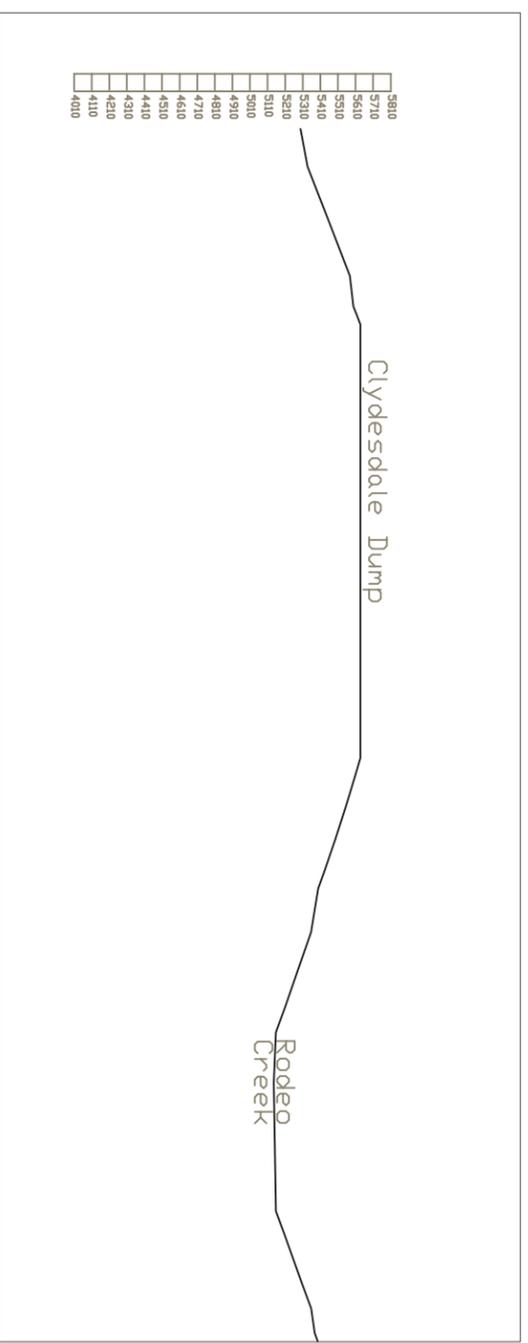
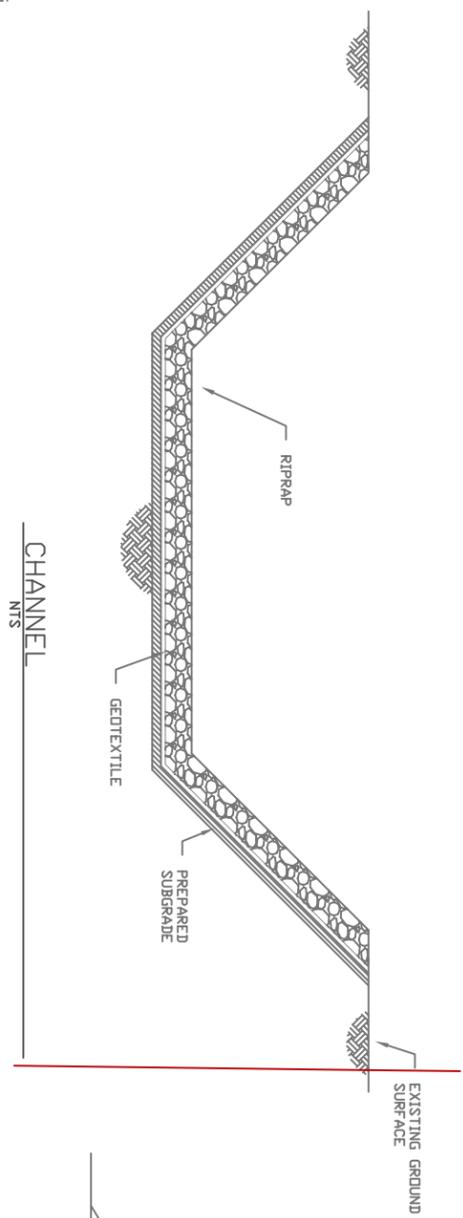
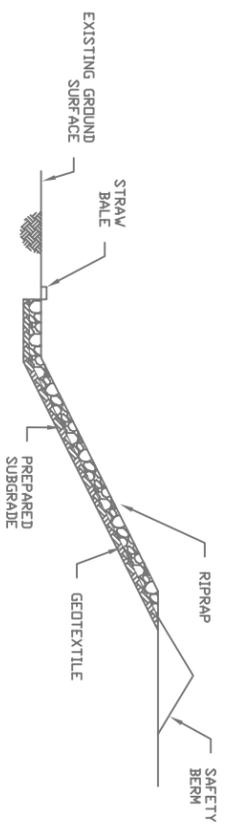
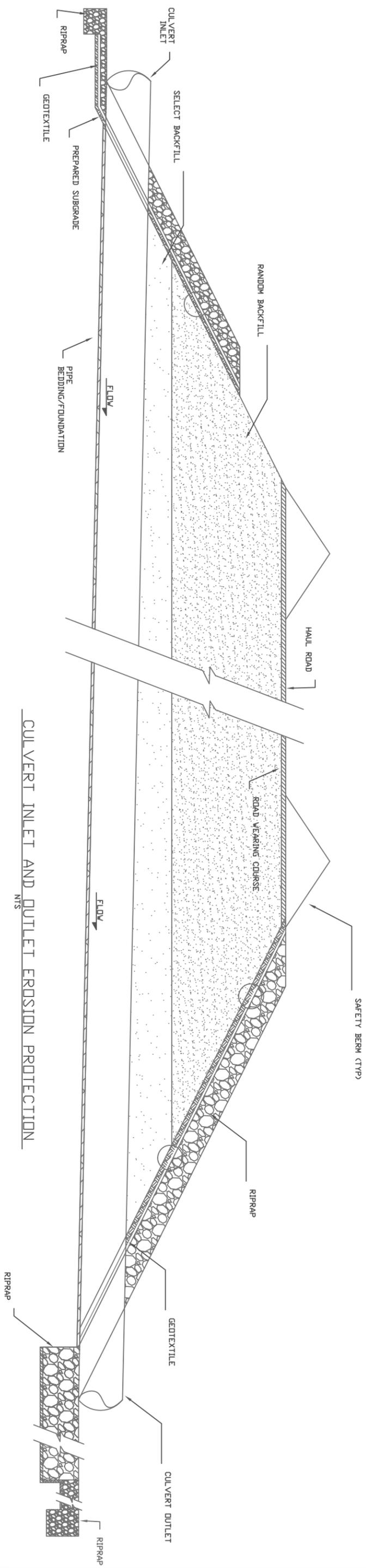


FIGURE 5

BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
CLYDESDALE WASTE ROCK
FACILITY TYPICAL CROSS-SECTION

PREPARED BY: **SRK Consulting**
Engineers and Scientists
SCALE: AS SHOWN
DWG
DATE: DEC. 20, 2006



DOWNSTREAM ROAD EROSION PROTECTION

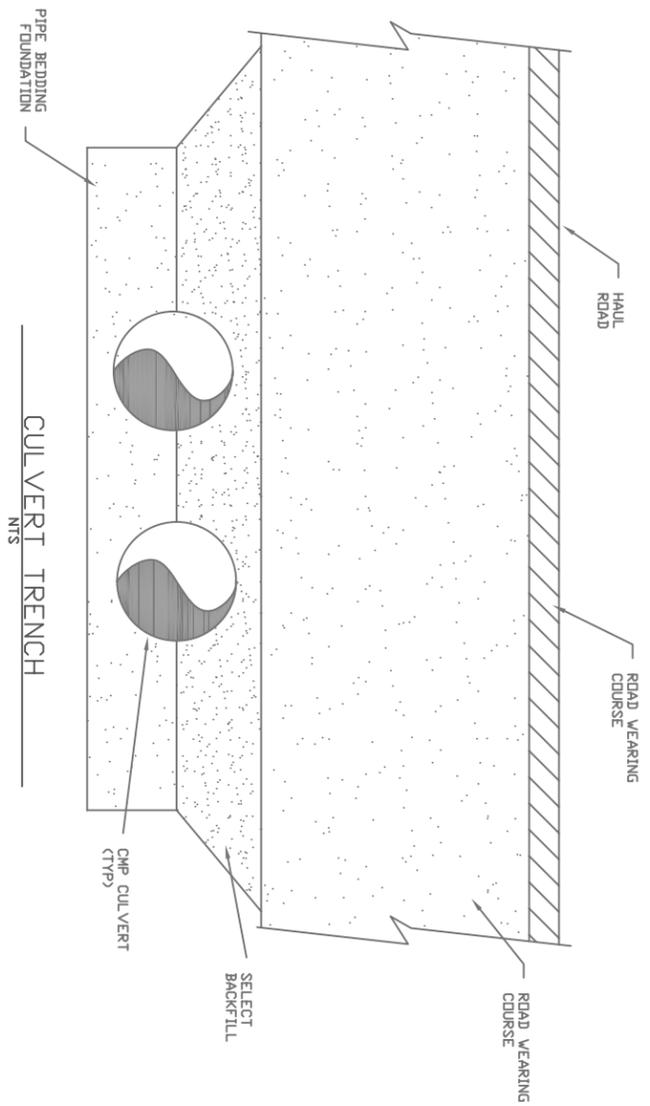
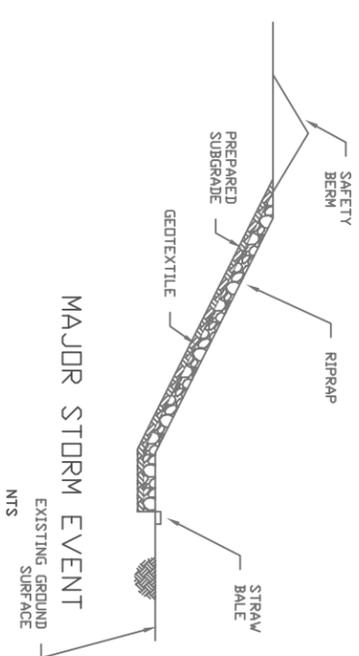


FIGURE 6

VECTOR
NEVADA, LLC



BARRICK

GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
TYPICAL RODEO, BRUSH AND
BELL CREEKS CULVERT SECTION

PREPARED BY:
SRK Consulting
Engineers and Scientists

SCALE: AS SHOWN
DWG DATE: DEC. 19, 2008

Facility Location

The proposed Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility will be located in the former Brush Creek drainage basin, north of the existing AA Tailings Impoundment and south of the North Block Tailings Disposal Facility (NBTDF). The alignment of the dam results in the dam footprint covering the Mill 4 Tailings Impoundment.

Facility Design

The Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility design incorporates a zoned earth/rockfill dam with an ultimate crest elevation of 5,725 feet above mean sea level (amsl) and a geosynthetic-lined impoundment area upstream of the dam. The dam design incorporates staged dam construction (with potentially up to four stages) with raise construction using modified centerline construction techniques. The downstream embankment slopes will be constructed at a maximum slope of 2.5H:1V, while upstream slopes will be constructed at a maximum of 3H:1V to allow a 60-mil (1.5-mm) linear low density polyethylene (LLDPE) liner to be installed in the impoundment. A minimum crest width of 150 feet will be maintained to allow the embankment to be constructed using the existing mine fleet. The liner system in the impoundment and on the upstream face of the dam will be a composite liner, consisting of a compacted soil liner. The liner system will meet or exceed the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection [NDEP] requirement to provide protection equivalent to that of 12 inches of compacted soil with a maximum saturated hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-6} cm/sec overlain by a 60-mil LLDPE geosynthetic liner. These design specifications will also meet or exceed requirements under 43 C.F.R. Subpart 3809 regulations and BLM guidance.

The embankment will incorporate an internal drain layer on the upstream face of the dam to capture seepage that may enter the embankment fill and prevent the development of a piezometric surface in the dam. The drain layer will be constructed using free-draining, durable, non-acid generating rock derived from mine operations.

The impoundment area will incorporate an underdrain system which will be constructed beneath the composite liner to capture flows from springs or seeps within the Brush Creek basin, as well as an overdrain system which will be constructed on top of the composite liner system to capture seepage from the tailings, aid tailings consolidation, and minimize head on the liner system. The underdrain system will consist of gravel drains with perforated high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipes to efficiently collect flows and convey them downstream of the proposed embankment. In lieu of using gravel and perforated HDPE pipes, fabric-wrapped polyethylene wick drains may be used for seepage collection above the liner. The wick drains will drain to a small gravel drain with a perforated collection pipe. During operations, the captured flow from the overdrain system will drain to a seepage collection sump downstream of the embankment, and then pumped back into the impoundment.

As designed, the Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility embankment footprint will cover approximately 201 acres (644 acres of private land and 46 acres of public land) and will have a maximum height (crest to downstream toe) of approximately 335 feet. At its ultimate configuration, the facility will store approximately 115.4 million tons of tailings (assuming a dry density of 85 pounds per cubic foot), and the ultimate tailings surface will cover approximately 537 acres. The ore mined from the proposed pit expansion will consume approximately ten percent of the total design capacity of the proposed tailings facility. The remaining tailings capacity will be utilized with the existing authorized mining and processing activities. The disturbance due to the embankment construction and the coverage by tailings will total 690 acres. Of the 690 acres of total disturbance, 46 acres will be administered by the BLM. The sum of the embankment footprint area and the ultimate tailings surface area exceed the total disturbance area because at its ultimate configuration, the tailings will be deposited over the upstream portion of the footprint area of the embankment.

Surface water run-on is controlled by the Brush Creek Diversion Channel. The diversion channel is located above (upgradient) of the ultimate tailings elevation and areal extents and is designed to convey the peak flow due to the 100-year 24-hour storm event occurring upstream of the diversion. The diverted Brush Creek eventually discharges into the Rodeo Creek Diversion Channel downstream of the Rodeo Creek Diversion Dam.

Facility Construction

The Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility embankment and tailings impoundment area will be constructed in approximately four stages, dependent upon tailings production rates. Based on the anticipated production rates, the proposed stages and minimum elevations for each stage are provided in Table 2-6.

Table 2-6: Proposed Staged Construction of Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility

Stage	Minimum Elevation (feet amsl) ¹
1 (Initial Construction)	5,600
2	5,654
3	5,688
4	5,725

¹ – Minimum elevation refers to the elevation of the lined portion of the embankment and the lined portion of the impoundment that will be constructed during the stage.

The footprint of the embankment will be prepared by stripping topsoil and over-excavating approximately two feet of foundation soils. Foundation preparation will be completed using mine equipment and supervised by Barrick. The embankment will be constructed using modified centerline raise techniques; as such the maximum embankment footprint will be prepared during Stage 1 of construction. The foundation of the areas to be lined within the impoundment during later stages (Stages 2 through 4) will be prepared immediately prior to liner installation for that stage as shown on Figure 7.

As mentioned above, the embankment will be constructed in approximately four stages using durable, non-acid generating rock derived from open pit mining operations at the Goldstrike Mine. Construction materials will be hauled and placed using the mine’s haul trucks. The materials to be placed in the embankment are identified as Zone A, Zone B, or Zone C fills as shown on Figure 7. Each of the zones has a different specification for maximum lift thickness. Zone A fill will be placed in four-foot lifts (maximum) if placed by mine equipment or 18-inch (maximum) lifts if placed by a contractor. Zone B will be placed in eight-foot lifts (maximum) using mine equipment and Zone C fill will be placed in lifts with the maximum lift thickness to be determined during construction by Barrick. In all cases, where mine equipment will be hauling and placing fill, compaction will be achieved by routing the haul trucks over the fills. This construction method is identical to that used in the construction of the NBTDF embankments.

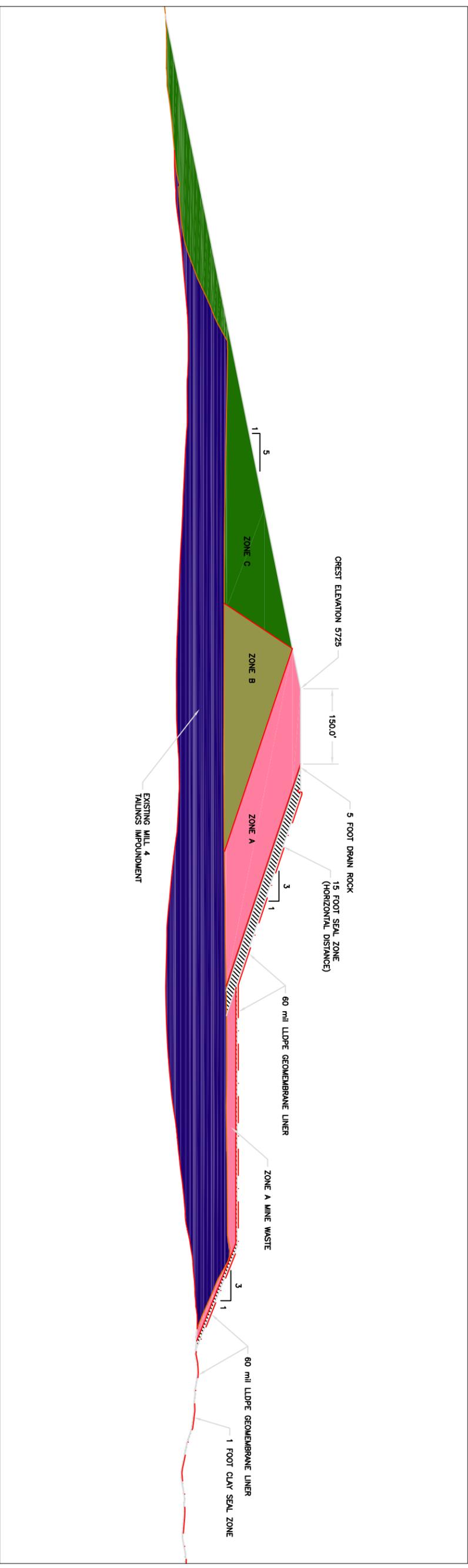
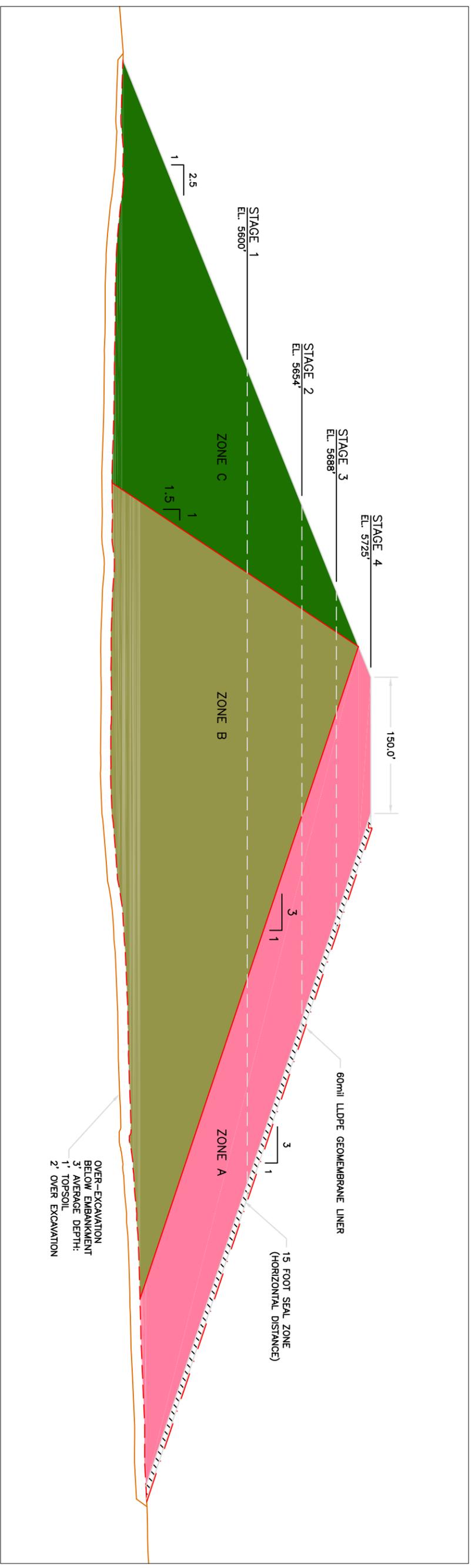


FIGURE 7

VECTOR
NEVADA, LLC

BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
GOLDSTRIKE NO. 3 EMBANKMENT
PROPOSED ULTIMATE CONFIGURATION
SECTIONS

PREPARED BY: **SRK Consulting**
Engineers and Scientists
SCALE: AS SHOWN
DWG NAME: _____
DATE: DEC. 19, 2008

The liner system for the embankment will be constructed over the Zone A fill that will be placed on the upstream slope of the embankment. The liner system will consist of a compacted soil liner that meets or exceeds the NDEP requirement to provide protection equivalent to that of 12 inches of compacted soil with a maximum saturated hydraulic conductivity of 1×10^{-6} cm/sec, and a 60-mil LLDPE geosynthetic liner. Both the compacted soil liner and the LLDPE liner will be installed by a contractor. Third party construction quality assurance (CQA) will be provided for the soil liner and geosynthetic liner installation, as well as underdrain and overdrain construction to ensure the installation is completed according to the technical specifications developed for the project during final design.

Facility Operation

The Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility will store thickened tailings as opposed to conventional slurried tailings to maximize storage volume and minimize long-term (closure or post-closure) liabilities related to the consolidation and draindown of interstitial fluids contained within the tailings. The target for thickened tailings production is to produce a product containing 50 to 55 percent solids by weight. By means of comparison, the conventional tailings that are currently deposited in the NBTDF are deposited at an average solids concentration of approximately 35 percent solids by weight.

The tailings will be spigotted into the impoundment primarily from the east side of the impoundment to form a beach sloping toward the west which is also toward the embankment. A small water pool is anticipated to form adjacent to the embankment in response to the inflow of meteoric water from direct precipitation, snowmelt, etc. Since the tailings will be deposited at a high solids content (50 to 55 percent solids, by weight), bleed water from the tailings will be minimized. The spigot locations will be rotated on a regular basis to distribute the tailings throughout the impoundment and ensure drying and consolidation of the tailings is maximized. The tailings will primarily be distributed from the northern and eastern flanks to create a uniformly sloping beach that drains toward the southwest corner of the impoundment.

The facility will be operated as a zero discharge facility; as such, there will not be an emergency spillway constructed during operations. The facility is designed to store all anticipated inflows up to the Probable Maximum Flood determined for the facility. In the event of a large magnitude precipitation event, the facility will be able to store the accumulated runoff and eliminate the excess accumulated water by consuming it within the process circuit as it is currently done in the NBTDF.

Facility Monitoring and Maintenance

The Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility will be maintained by Barrick operators responsible for the operation and maintenance of the tailings facilities and their components at the Goldstrike Mine. The components requiring regular maintenance include the tailings distribution pumps, the tailings distribution pipelines, valves, and spigots, the water reclaim pump, and the water reclaim pipeline and valves. The tailings distribution and water reclaim systems will be checked on a regular basis (at a minimum of daily) to ensure the pumps are functioning properly and the pipelines and valves are not leaking.

During the operation of the facility, the process components will be inspected on a daily basis by the operators who are charged with their proper operation. Other facility components, such as the embankment itself, the lining system, the overdrain system, and the underdrain system will be periodically monitored by Barrick personnel or representatives of the Engineer of Record. Examples of periodic monitoring include performing quarterly topographic surveys of the tailings and the water pool, taking regular readings of instrumentation installed in the embankment (i.e. inclinometers and vibrating wire piezometers), taking readings of instrumentation installed within the tailings and drainage components (i.e. vibrating wire piezometers), taking readings from flowmeters measuring flow from the overdrain and underdrain systems, and performing visual inspections of the embankment, the tailings

impoundment area, and flow components. Samples of overdrain and underdrain flows will be taken periodically to check the chemistry of the flows. Samples will be sent to a NDEP-certified analytical testing laboratory for analysis. The frequency of the readings of the instrumentation and sampling of flows is likely to vary between weekly and quarterly depending upon the performance of each of the facility components. In the event there is any concern regarding the performance of any specific components, the frequency of readings or observations will be increased to ensure proper operation. Thorough dam safety inspections will be completed annually in accordance with Barrick's corporate policies on dam safety as well as those established by the Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR).

2.4.6 Work Force

Employment of the existing workforce will be extended for up to five years to complete the mining and related processing of the layback. Because of the continuance of employment of the existing workforce, no new employees will be hired to mine the layback. BGMI may also utilize a contract workforce to perform pre-stripping operations.

2.5 Committed Practices

2.5.1 Archaeological Surveys

BGMI has completed a Class III Cultural Resources Survey to identify potentially eligible sites for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The survey concluded that several sites were eligible for the NRHP. BGMI conducted additional archaeological probing at many sites during the summer of 2006 under the guidance of BLM, in order to more accurately assess the eligibility status. The results of this investigation must still be reviewed by BLM and the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) prior to revising the eligibility status of any site. Care will be taken to avoid cultural sites in planned activities wherever possible. A treatment plan will be developed by BLM and SHPO for potentially affected sites determined to be eligible for the NRHP to outline treatment and mitigation actions required prior to project approval.

BGMI's existing mining activities are conducted in coordination with the BLM to address any issues, and operate within the laws and regulations protecting cultural resources. BGMI has been proactive in protecting cultural resources by fencing sites to preclude off road travel, and training its employees and contractors regarding their individual and corporate responsibilities to protect cultural resources both on and off BGMI property. Employees and contractors are prohibited from cross-country travel and removing artifacts. If, under normal operations, a previously undiscovered potential cultural site is encountered, BGMI will postpone disturbance pending consultation as may be required by BLM and SHPO. Exploration areas are cleared for cultural resources by an approved cultural resources contractor prior to disturbance.

2.5.2 Safety and Fire Protection

The existing facilities operate in conformance with all MSHA safety regulations (30 CFR1-199) and the proposed Project will operate in conformance with all MSHA safety regulations (30 CFR 1-199). Site access will be restricted to employees and authorized visitors. Fire protection equipment and a fire protection plan will be established for the Project Site in accordance with State Fire Marshal standards.

2.5.3 Control of Air Emissions

The pit expansion will increase the life of the Roaster Facility by two years at its design rate. The expansion will not increase the existing levels of production, design capacity, or emission limits, and therefore is not anticipated to increase particulate matter, gaseous materials, or trace metals. Particulate

emissions comprise the principle impacts to air quality and are primarily associated with mining, transport, and crushing operations. Gaseous emissions result from mining, construction, equipment and processing operations. Trace metal emissions are generated from the mine and processing facilities.

Air pollution control technology and work practices are employed by the processing facilities and operations having the potential to generate air emissions. Fugitive dust emissions are controlled using best practical methods as specified in the applicable fugitive dust control plan. Emissions from process sources are controlled in accordance with the requirements of the air quality operating permit issued by the Nevada Bureau of Air Pollution Control. Such requirements include compliance with specified operating and emission limitations and the operation of emission control systems. Additionally, mercury emissions from process sources are controlled in accordance with Nevada's voluntary and regulatory Mercury Control Programs which require testing, monitoring, recordkeeping, reporting and the installation and operation of state-of-the-art controls.

2.5.4 Erosion and Sediment Control

Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used to limit erosion and reduce sediment in precipitation runoff from Project facilities and disturbed areas during construction, operations, and initial stages of reclamation. BMPs may include, but are not limited to, diversion and routing of stormwater using accepted engineering practices, such as diversion ditches, and the placement of erosion control devices such as sediment traps, and rock and gravel cover.

Revegetation of disturbed areas will reduce the potential for wind and water erosion. Following construction activities, areas such as cut and fill embankments and growth media stockpiles will be seeded as soon as practical and safe. Concurrent reclamation will be maximized to the extent practical to accelerate revegetation of disturbed areas. All sediment and erosion control measures will be inspected periodically, and repairs performed as needed.

Coverage under NDEP's general stormwater permit will be required for the Project. The *Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for the Goldstrike Mine* (Appendix 4) will be amended as necessary to include the proposed Project facilities.

2.5.5 Spill Prevention and Containment

The existing *Emergency Response and Spill Contingency Plan* is presented in Appendix 5.

2.5.6 Monitoring

BGMI will incorporate monitoring of the proposed components into the existing monitoring activities. The proposed project falls within the purview of existing water pollution control permits for Goldstrike (90060) and 89068 (Boulder Valley). Monitoring described in these water pollution control permits addresses surface water at Rodeo, Brush, Bell, and Boulder creeks, as well as groundwater in the vicinity of the Betze Pit and Boulder Valley. Water pollution control permit 90060 will be modified to include monitoring the Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility with respect to waste rock geochemical characteristics.

2.5.7 Protection of Survey Monuments

To the extent practicable, BGMI will protect all survey monuments, witness corners, reference monuments, bearing trees, and line trees against unnecessary or undue destruction, obliteration or damage. If, in the course of operations, any monuments, corners, or accessories are destroyed, BGMI will immediately report the matter to the authorized officer.

2.5.8 Plant Growth Media/Soil Salvage and Storage

Suitable plant growth media will be salvaged and stockpiled during the development of the layback disturbance, and construction of the waste rock storage facility.

Plant growth media will be placed in stockpiles outside of the facility footprint to prevent disturbance from mining operations. The surfaces of the stockpiles will be shaped after construction with slopes no steeper than 2.5H:1V to reduce erosion. To further minimize wind and water erosion, the soil stockpiles will be seeded with quick growing grass species after shaping to stabilize the soil. Diversion channels and/or berms will be constructed around the stockpiles as needed to prevent erosion from overland runoff. In addition to direct reclamation, BMPs such as silt fences or straw bales will be used as necessary to contain sediment potentially liberated from direct precipitation.

2.5.9 Noxious Weed Monitoring and Control

BGMI recognizes the economic and environmental impact that can result from the establishment of noxious weeds and has committed to a proactive approach to weed control. A noxious weed monitoring and control plan has been prepared and is being implemented for all ongoing and future projects. The results from annual monitoring will be the basis for updating the plan and developing annual treatment programs.

3 Reclamation Plan

Reclamation of disturbed areas resulting from activities outlined in this Reclamation Plan will be completed in accordance with BLM and NDEP regulations. BLM's 3809 regulations require that an operator submit a plan to reclaim disturbed areas. The regulations establish procedures and standards to ensure that operators meet this responsibility and provide for the maximum possible coordination with appropriate state agencies to avoid duplication and to ensure that operators prevent unnecessary and undue degradation. Similarly, the State of Nevada requires that a reclamation plan be developed for any new mining projects and for expansions of existing operations (NRS 519A). This proposed reclamation plan complies with both BLM and NDEP requirements.

This reclamation plan addresses the proposed amendment activities.

The amendment disturbance areas are summarized in Table 2-3. The areas proposed for disturbance can be divided into the following: open pits, waste rock storage facility, and tailings disposal facility. Surface mine components will be permanently reclaimed and revegetated. Portions of the open pit above the predicted pit lake level will be revegetated to the extent practicable.

3.1 Measures Taken to Prevent Unnecessary and Undue Degradation

Measures to be taken to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation at the proposed Project are the same as those described for the *Barrick Goldstrike Mine Reclamation Plan* (Barrick, 2006) on file at the BLM and NDEP and are listed below. These measures will be implemented during the design, construction, operation, and closure of the Project:

- Regulated components of the facility will be designed and constructed to meet or exceed BLM/NDEP/NDOW/NDWR design criteria. Waste rock storage facilities and stockpiles, which do not require engineered containment, will be evaluated for their potential to release constituents and will be monitored routinely, or in accordance with an approved waste rock monitoring plan;
- Mineral exploration and development drill holes, monitoring and observation wells, and production dewatering wells subject to Nevada regulations will be properly abandoned to prevent potential contamination of water resources;

- Regulated wastes will be managed according to relevant regulations and BGMI management plans;
- Surface disturbance will be minimized while optimizing the recovery of mineral resources;
- Fugitive dust emissions from disturbed and exposed surfaces will be controlled in accordance with NDEP regulations and permits;
- Surface water drainage control will be accomplished by diverting storm water, isolating facility runoff, and minimizing erosion;
- Where suitable as a growth media, surface soils and some alluvial material in the open pit will be managed as a growth media resource and removed, stockpiled, and used during reclamation; and
- A reclamation plan will be implemented which addresses earthwork and recontouring, revegetation and stabilization, chemical stabilization and disposal, and monitoring operations necessary to satisfactorily reclaim the proposed disturbance including: roads, waste rock storage facilities.

3.1.1 Growth Media

The proposed waste rock storage facility and roads will be covered with at least 12 inches or as described in the *Waste Rock Management Plan* (Appendix 3). The volume of available growth media will be verified during stripping operations.

3.1.2 Revegetation, Seeding, and Planting

Reclaimed surfaces will be revegetated to control runoff, reduce erosion, reduce visual impacts, and provide forage for wildlife and livestock. In areas with compacted surfaces, ripping will be conducted to loosen the soil. Accessible surfaces not comprised of soil will then be covered with growth media. Seedbed preparation may be performed immediately prior to seeding to allow seed placement prior to soil recompaction. Seedbed preparation could consist of scarification.

Seed will be applied with either a rangeland drill or with a mechanical broadcaster and harrow, depending upon accessibility. Seedbed preparation and seeding will take place in the fall after grading and topsoiling of reclaimed areas.

A reclamation seed mixture and application rate, based on the BLM requirements shown in Table 3-1, has been used in the Reclamation Cost Estimate. This mixture will provide forage and cover species similar to the pre-disturbance conditions, facilitating the post-mining land uses of livestock grazing and wildlife habitat. In addition, the seed mix has been determined based on the species' effectiveness in providing erosion protection, the ability to grow within the constraints of the low annual precipitation experienced in the region, its suitability for site aspect, and the elevation and soil type.

Table 3-1: Seed Mix

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Number of Seeds / lb	Species percent in Mix	PLS/acre
Grasses				
Ephraim Crested Wheatgrass	<i>Agropyron Cristatum var. Ephraim</i>			0.5

Common Name	Scientific Name	Species Number of Seeds / lb	Species percent in Mix	PLS/acre
Thickspike Wheatgrass	<i>Agropyron dasystrachyum</i>	154,000	4.4	0.5
Bluebunch Wheatgrass	<i>Agropyron spicatum</i>	117,000	23.42	3.5
Great Basin Wildrye	<i>Elymus cinereus</i>	95,000	8.15	2.5
Big Bluegrass	<i>Poa ampla</i>	917,000	13.11	0.25
Indian Ricegrass	<i>Oryzopsis hymenoides</i>	188,000	5.38	0.5
Sandberg Bluegrass	<i>Poa secunda</i>	925,000	13.23	0.25
Forbs				
Blue Flax				0.25
Small Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	55,000	1.57	0.5
Forage Kochia	<i>Kochia prostrata var. Immigrant</i>	407,700	2.33	0.1
Palmer Penstemon	<i>Penstemon palmeri</i>	610,000	3.49	0.1
Shrubs				
Fourwing Saltbush	<i>Atriplex canescens</i>	52,000	5.95	0.75
Antelope Bitterbrush	<i>Purshia tridentate</i>	15,000	0.43	1
Winterfat	<i>Eurotia lanata</i>	111,000	1.59	0.25
Wyoming Big Sagebrush	<i>Artemesia tridentata wyomingensis</i>	2,500,000	7.15	0.05
Total				11

This seed mix and application rates are based on prior results and monitoring of reclaimed areas and test plots completed at the Goldstrike Mine.

3.2 Description of Other Reclamation Activities, Such as Historic Disturbances

Not applicable.

3.3 Proposed Reclamation Schedule

The proposed pit expansion will be active for approximately three to four years. The Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility will be active from 2009 through 2015. The Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility will continue to operate through 2025. Approximately three to five years beyond that the end dates may be anticipated for closure activities, final reclamation, and groundwater monitoring. The projected reclamation schedule for the Project is shown on Figure 8.

Concurrent waste rock storage facility reclamation will occur when practical and safe. Concurrent reclamation will involve contouring and revegetating the permanently-inactive waste rock storage facility slopes during operations. Upon completion of mining, the waste rock storage facility recontouring and seeding will be completed pursuant to the Final Closure Plan and schedule submitted for the project.

3.4 Post-Mining Land Use and Reclamation Goals

Major land uses occurring in the Plan Area include mineral exploration and development, livestock grazing, wildlife habitat and dispersed recreation. Following closure, the Plan Area will support the multiple land uses of livestock grazing, wildlife habitat and recreation. BGMI will work with the agencies and local governments to evaluate alternative land uses that could provide long-term socio-economic benefits from the mine infrastructure. All post-closure land uses are in conformance with the Eureka and Elko counties zoning ordinances.

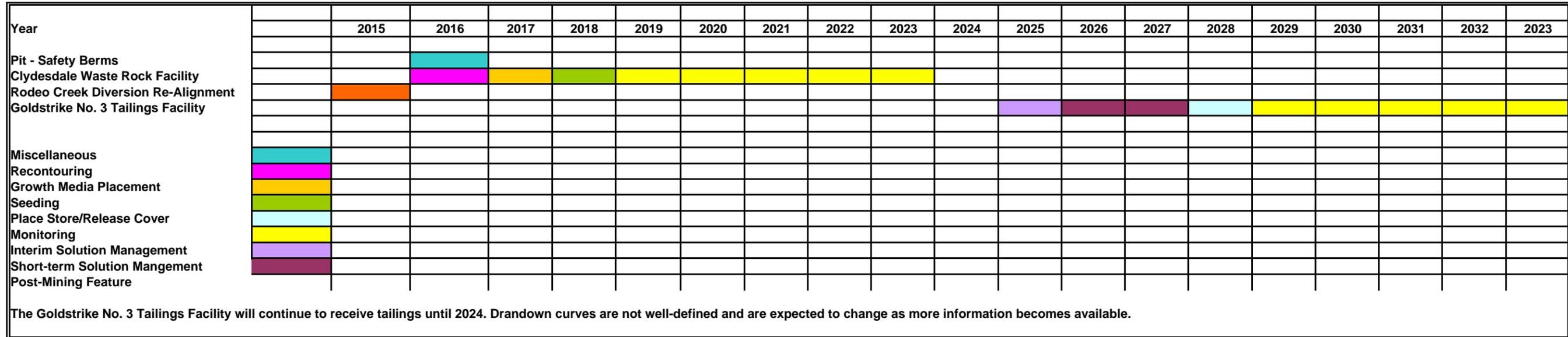
The objectives of the reclamation program are as follows:

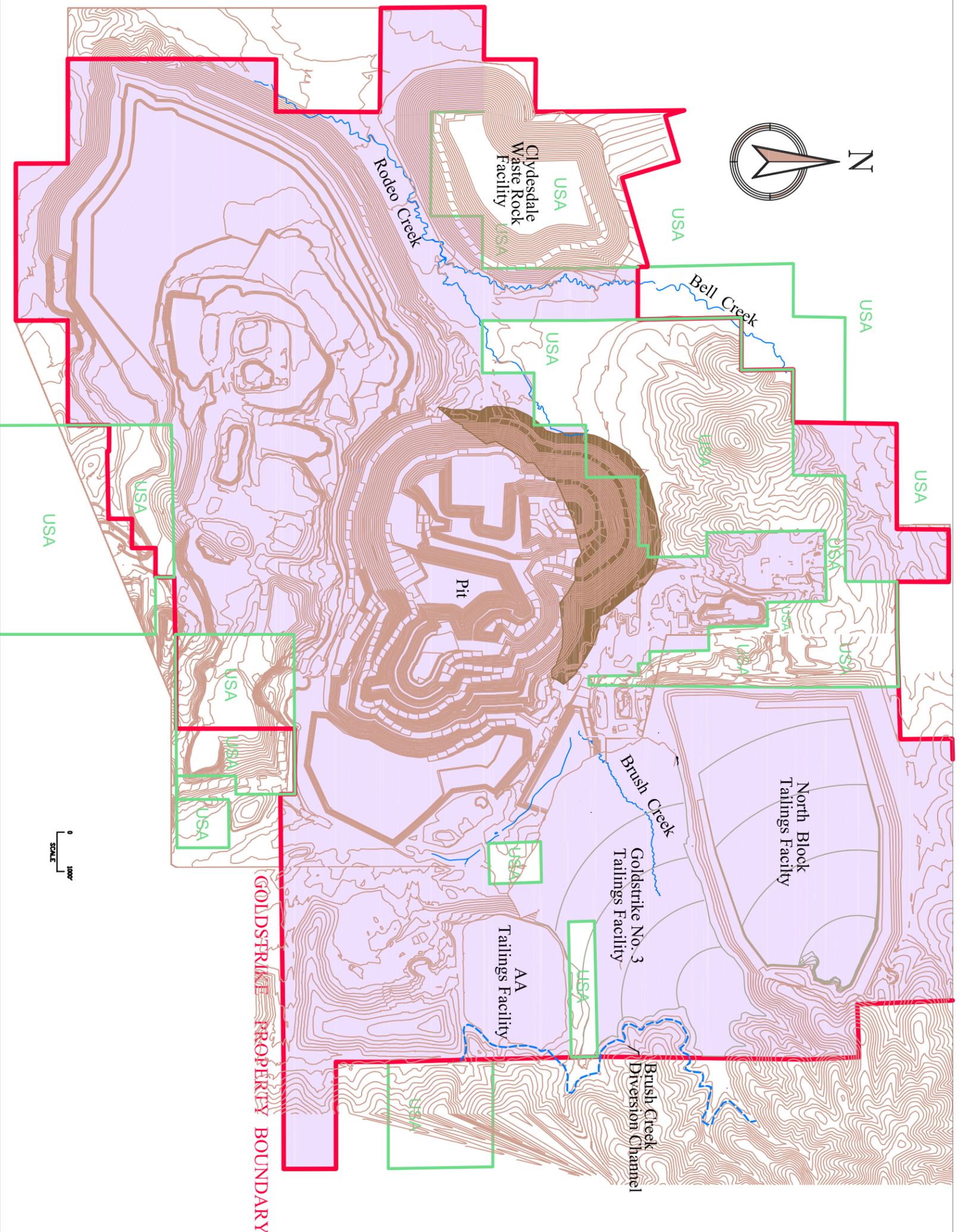
- To provide a stable post-mining landform that supports defined land uses, such as wildlife habitat and domestic grazing.
- To minimize erosion damage and protect water resources through control of water runoff and stabilization of components.
- To establish post-reclamation surface soil conditions conducive to the regeneration of a stable plant community through salvage, stockpiling and reapplication of soil material.
- To revegetate disturbed areas with a diverse mixture of plant species in order to establish productive long-term plant communities compatible with existing land uses.
- To maintain public safety by stabilizing or limiting access to landforms that could constitute a public hazard.

3.5 Post-Mining Contours and Topography

The final grading plan for the Project is designed in part to minimize the visual impacts of unnatural lines and land forms. Slopes will be regraded to blend with surrounding topography, interrupt straight-line features and facilitate revegetation, where practical. Where feasible, large constructed topographic features, such as the waste rock storage facility, may have rounded crests and variable slope angles to resemble natural landforms. The open pit will remain as large depressions, partially filled with water. Post-reclamation topography is provided on Figure 9.

**Figure 8
Conceptual Reclamation Schedule**





- LEGEND**
- BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE PROPERTY BOUNDARY
 - BARRICK SURFACE
 - BARRICK DIVERSION
 - EXISTING DRAINAGES

FIGURE 9

BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE MINES INC.
POST MINING TOPOGRAPHY

PREPARED BY:



SRK Consulting
Engineers and Scientists

SCALE: AS SHOWN
DWG NAME
DATE: DEC. 20, 2008

3.5.1 Final Gradient Slope Stability Technical Criteria

Site stability is influenced by the final slopes of earthen/rock components, with shallower slopes typically representing more stable configurations.

3.5.2 Open Pit

The proposed disturbance will be reclaimed in accordance with the approved reclamation plan and the pit lake study. The walls of the Betze Pit will generally have an overall slope of 32° to 46°. Actual slope angles will be subject to engineering studies, conditions encountered during actual mining operations. Operational and post-closure open pit slope configuration will be controlled by several parameters that include the geometry of the ore body, geologic and geotechnical characteristics of the host rock, equipment constraints, and safe operating practices.

As mining progresses, an ongoing geotechnical program will be conducted to confirm the assumptions made during open pit design. Geologic structural mapping and open pit wall and groundwater level monitoring will be performed to optimize the open pit design and help ensure open pit stability during operations. The highwall is designed to a safety factor of 1.2. The open pit wall angles are designed to naturally reestablish angles of repose creating a long term stable landform within the pit footprint. The perimeter of the pit will be barricaded to prevent public access outside of the predicted failure zone. A six-foot safety berm with 2.5H:1V slopes will be constructed to prevent accidental access to the pit area on the south, west, and north slopes. Because the native terrain on the east slope is the same slope or steeper than the pit wall, accidental access to the pit is unlikely. No impacts to the ground surface away from the highwall area are anticipated. Appendix 2 presents an executive summary of the pit stability analysis.

The slope angles of the open pit walls prohibit the reclamation practice of soil replacement and revegetation due to access logistics and safety concerns. The open pit floors will be under water as a pit lake develops, and the ramps will be barricaded to prevent entrance. The open pit floors and ramps are expected to be competent rock surfaces that will be stable without reclamation. These areas will have little or no potential to support vegetation, and future conditions of the pits are not conducive grazing or terrestrial wildlife habitat. In pit dumps occurring above the water table will be regraded, covered and revegetated.

3.5.3 Waste Rock Facilities

Generally the Clydesdale Waste Rock Facility will be constructed in 100-foot lifts with 250-foot step-outs. This allows for an overall post-mining configuration of 2.5H:1V to 2.8H:1V slopes. Waste rock facility closure practices have been recently developed at Goldstrike that reduce or eliminate infiltration of water and oxygen, and promote long-term geomorphic stability. This design involves:

- shaping the pile to a geomorphically stable configuration,
- placing a soil cover that incorporates high water holding capacity and includes capillary breaks to reduce net infiltration, and,
- establishment of perennial vegetation to meet post-mining land use objectives.

This waste rock management plan employs the:

- use of a layered cover comprised of topsoil and Carlin materials designed to reduce or eliminate infiltration of water and oxygen,
- design of a thicker cover system consisting of 24 inches of topsoil and 48 inches of Carlin material placed over PAG cells, and,

- use of a minimum of 12 inches of cover consisting of either topsoil, Carlin, or a combination of materials for non-PAG areas.

The post reclamation configurations of the waste rock storage facility expansion were evaluated to determine mass stability under static and pseudostatic (seismic) conditions (Appendix 2). The projected Factor of Safety (FOS) for static conditions was 1.6 for the Clydesdale Dump.

BGMI has conducted condemnation drilling in the areas proposed for waste rock storage facilities to verify the absence of mineral resources and collection geotechnical information. This geotechnical information will be used to refine the waste rock storage facility stability analysis prior to the placement of waste rock. If additional information is required prior to construction, a targeted drilling program will be conducted.

3.5.4 Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Facility

The No. 3 Tailing embankment is located between the NBTDF to the north and the AA tailings impoundment to the south. The east side of the impoundment is bounded by a mountain range and the Betze-Post open pit is approximately 1,000 feet west of the embankment crest.

Static and dynamic (e.g. earthquake) stability analyses were completed for the proposed embankment, along with an evaluation of the potential for liquefaction of the foundation materials and consolidation rates. The embankment fill was designed to have a static factor of safety greater than 1.5 under all phases of construction. The upstream sloping drains and seal zone have a static factor of safety greater than 1.3, during construction and prior to filling.

Dynamic analyses were undertaken to evaluate the response of the structure to earthquake loading. The design earthquake event has a probability of occurring of two percent in 50 years. Pseudostatic analyses were conducted to ensure the structure has the ability to withstand the design earthquake loading with a minimum factor of safety of 1.1 (Vector 2006a).

3.6 Reclamation of Impoundments and Infiltration Basins

Not applicable.

3.7 Reclamation of Waste Rock Facilities

The waste rock storage facilities will be reclaimed to meet certain general objectives including: reduced slope erosion, mass stability, rounded edges, revegetated surfaces, and rates of soil loss consistent with the surrounding topographic features. The waste rock management plan employs the:

- use of a layered cover comprised of topsoil and Carlin materials designed to reduce or eliminate infiltration of water and oxygen,
- design of a thicker cover system consisting of 24 inches of topsoil and 48 inches of Carlin material placed over PAG cells; and
- use of a minimum of 12 inches of cover consisting of either topsoil, Carlin, or a combination of materials for non-PAG areas.

As areas of the waste storage facility reach their ultimate configurations and become inactive, the storage facility face will be regraded. Once regraded, the surface will be covered with approximately 12 inches of growth media or as described in the *Waste Rock Management Plan*. The area will then be seeded with the seed mixture shown in Table 3-1.

Reclamation of the waste rock storage facility will be conducted concurrently with regular mine operations to the extent reasonable.

3.8 Reclamation of Tailings Impoundments Dams and Ponds

The embankment for the Goldstrike No. 3 Tailings Disposal Facility will be constructed using a modified centerline raise construction techniques; as such, there is an opportunity for Barrick to perform concurrent reclamation of the downstream slope of the tailings embankment during operations of the facility. At closure, the downstream slope of the facility will be vegetated to stabilize the slope and surface water controls will be put in place to ensure the long term stability of the slope.

In the period leading up to closure, the tailings will be deposited to create a contoured surface that drains to the southwest corner of the facility. Due to the fact that thickened tailings will be deposited, the amount of post-closure consolidation of the tailings will be minimized. Following the final deposition of tailings in the impoundment, the tailings will be permitted to consolidate for a short period of time before placing a “store and release” soil cover of fine-grained low permeability soil. The soil cover will be seeded with native vegetation to stabilize the soil from erosional forces such as wind and water. The areas on the soil cover where flows will concentrate will be stabilized using riprap to prevent scour due to flow concentration.

At closure, an emergency spillway will be constructed in the southwest corner of the facility to allow flows up to the PMF to be passed safely through the facility. At closure, the reclaimed tailings surface (with soil cover) will not permanently impound water. During high intensity rainfall events, water may be temporarily impounded (for less than 24 to 48 hours) on the reclaimed surface while it is being passed through the spillway. Flow from the spillway will enter the Rodeo Creek Diversion downstream of the seepage collection facilities for the AA Tailings Impoundment.

Closure of the facility may include the plugging of the overdrain constructed on top of the liner. The decision to plug the overdrain or construct a passive collection and treatment facility (i.e. infiltration basin, evapotranspiration cell, or evaporation cell) will be dependent upon the flowrate and chemistry of the draindown flows from the overdrain. At closure, the underdrain will likely remain in place to convey spring and seep flow from beneath the facility to downstream receiving waters.

Post-closure monitoring of the facility will include monitoring for the success of the revegetation of the embankment and the reclaimed tailings surface, inspection of the spillway to ensure it is stable and not eroding, inspection of the embankment for erosional stability as well as global slope stability, monitoring of the overdrain and underdrain flow rates and chemistry, and visual inspection of the upstream diversion to ensure it is functioning as intended. The minimum post-closure monitoring period will be five years as per the current NDEP closure regulations. Details of the required post-closure monitoring will be detailed in required closure document submittals to NDEP.

3.9 Reclamation of Heap Leach Facilities

Not applicable.

3.10 Reclamation of Process Ponds

Not applicable.

3.11 Constraints on Estimated Time to Complete Reclamation

The estimated time to complete reclamation assumes average precipitation occurs during the year following reseeding. Periods of drought could delay revegetation; however, it is expected to occur within three to five years following final configuration.

3.12 Proposed Reclamation Techniques of Road Features

In the Project Area, roads and safety berms will be re-contoured or regraded approximately to the original contour before disturbance. Where the road is located on fill, the side slopes will be rounded and regraded to 2.5H:1V. Finished slopes will be relatively similar to the surrounding topography. Compacted road surfaces road will then be ripped, covered with soil/growth media from the safety berms or road fill, and revegetated. Dikes and ditches that will no longer be required will be regraded and unneeded culverts removed.

Remaining exploration and access roads will be re-contoured and revegetated once they are not needed. Some access roads will be needed to access monitoring points.

3.13 Measures to Minimize Loading of Sediment to Surface Waters

Following precipitation events, regraded slopes, revegetation (including growth media placement) and BMPs will be used to limit erosion and reduce sediment in runoff from waste rock storage facilities. Surface water will be diverted around the open pit by the primary stormwater diversion and secondary perimeter berms and/or ditches. Silt fences, sediment traps, or other BMPs will be used to prevent migration of eroded material until reclaimed slopes and exposed surfaces have demonstrated erosional stability.

3.14 Disposition of Buildings and Support Facilities

Not applicable.

3.15 Surface Facilities or Roads Not Subject to Reclamation

As determined by BLM, any roads on public lands suitable for public access or which continue to provide public access consistent with pre-mining conditions will not be reclaimed at mine closure. Narrower access roads may remain on large haul roads after they have been re-contoured.

3.16 Reclamation of Open Pits

During final reclamation, a physical barrier (e.g. berms, fencing or other appropriate barriers) will be installed along the open pit crest area to control access by people, livestock, and large wildlife. Some barriers will be installed earlier in the mining operation when access is readily available. Reclamation of the open pit will include construction of a physical perimeter barricade to prevent vehicular access and deter livestock. Post-mining open pit wall modifications to decrease slope angles are not proposed.

Upon completion of dewatering operations, groundwater will begin a recovery period and ultimately form a pit lake. Implementation of interim revegetation of in-pit waste rock and haul roads during this recovery period will be completed to the extent practicable.

3.17 Reclamation of Underground Mines

Not applicable.

3.18 Post Reclamation Monitoring and Maintenance

Following mine closure, berm and sign maintenance, site inspections, and any other necessary monitoring for the period of reclamation responsibility, will be conducted. Monitoring of revegetation success will be conducted annually until the revegetation standards have been met and will include noxious weed monitoring and abatement as necessary.

Post-mining groundwater quality will be monitored according to the requirements established by NDEP upon approval of the water pollution control permit. The Reclamation Cost Estimate includes costs for five years for groundwater monitoring

Revegetation monitoring will be conducted for a minimum of three years following implementation and completion of revegetation activities or until revegetation success has been achieved. Revegetation monitoring will occur based on seasonal growth patterns, precipitation, and weather conditions.

Noxious weed monitoring and control will be implemented for a five-year period. Estimated costs for controlling noxious weeds have been provided in the Reclamation Cost Estimate.

3.19 Reclamation for Instream Mining

Not applicable. Instream mining is not proposed in the Plan boundary.

3.20 Statement of Effect of Proposed Reclamation of Future Mining

Site reclamation will have little effect on future mining in the area, although the waste rock storage facility and dewatering facilities will have to be recommissioned or rebuilt if post-reclamation mining were to occur.

3.21 Drill Hole Plugging and Water Well Abandonment

All mineral exploration and development drill holes, and monitoring, production, and dewatering wells subject to Nevada Division of Water Resources regulations will be abandoned in accordance with applicable rules and regulations (NAC 534.425 through 534.428). Boreholes will be sealed to prevent cross contamination between aquifers and the required shallow seal will be placed to prevent contamination by surface access.

3.22 Concurrent Reclamation

Some of the Project facilities or portions of the Project facilities will be decommissioned prior to final mine closure. These areas will be reclaimed concurrently with the active mining operations.

Growth media stockpiles will be seeded following construction and the area reclaimed after the soil is used in reclamation. Concurrent waste rock storage facility reclamation will occur when practical and safe. Concurrent reclamation will involve contouring and revegetating the permanently-inactive waste rock storage facility slopes during operations. Upon completion of mining, the waste rock storage facility recontouring and seeding will be completed pursuant to the Final Closure Plan and schedule submitted for the project.

3.23 Measures to be taken during Extended Periods of Non-operation

In the event that continuous, full-scale production is interrupted due to economic considerations or unforeseen circumstances, interim reclamation may be initiated. Interim reclamation is outlined below:

- *Power Lines:* The power line will be inspected regularly and maintained as necessary.
- *Roads:* The main access road will receive maintenance, as necessary.
- *Mine Open pit:* Berms or fences will be placed to help restrict access to bench face areas.
- *Erosion Control Measures:* All erosion control measures and BMPs will be regularly inspected and maintained.
- *Buildings:* All building, equipment and support facilities will be protected from public access and maintained as necessary.

Per NAC 519A.320(2) BGMI will notify BMRR in writing within 90 days after any project suspension that is anticipated to last longer than 120 days. BGMI will identify the nature and reason for the suspension, the duration of the suspension, and the events expected to result in either resumption of mining or the abandonment of the project. If mining remains inactive for five years, final reclamation will commence. Appendix 6 presents the Interim Closure Plan.

4 Assumption of Reclamation Responsibility

The applicant, Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc., hereby agrees to assume all responsibility for the completion of the reclamation work described within this document on all the surface areas affected by the operation of the Project.

5 Bond Cost Estimate

The Plan of Operations describes the maximum development that is likely to occur at the site based on current knowledge of geologic and other site conditions.

The proposed disturbance acreage for the Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc. is provided in Table 2-3. Disturbance has been provided for storage facility expansion, excess ancillary facilities, new and expanded process facilities, new and expanded storage facilities, new powerline, piping, and conveyor corridors, and new and expanded open pits.

5.1 The Cost of Equipment Rental, Operation, and Labor Appropriate for the Geographic Area

Reclamation costs are estimated based on costs provided in the *Nevada Standard Reclamation Cost Estimator* version 1.1 released on November 9, 2006 or current version applicable at the time of estimation.

5.1.1 Earthwork (Regrading/Recontouring)

Earthworks are calculated in a number of ways, employing estimation methods appropriate for each component. For example, heaps and storage facilities will be constructed in benches in a similar manner. Earthworks for benches employs geometric formulas to estimate total cut and fill, balanced approximately the central (mid-bench) lift height. Providing a unitized (LCY/foot length of bench) volume allows for estimation of total volume by multiplying the run of each bench or bench segment. These benches are then grouped and summarized in a manner that allows the application of unit productivity for each bench type.

5.1.2 Growth Media Replacement

For the purposes of bond calculations, it is planned that 12 inches of growth media will be placed on designated areas or as specified in the Goldstrike Waste Rock Management Plan. Growth media consists of locally available alluvial or soil materials, and placement accounts for slope (e.g. the calculation does not simply summarize plan-view acres) and proximity to available growth media. Growth media must be recovered and placed concurrent with mining in a manner consistent with the cost calculations.

5.1.3 Revegetation

Revegetation will be performed by drilling or broadcasting and harrowing the approved seed mix over a non-compacted surface (i.e., ripping is required in a number of instances). Estimated costs include labor, equipment rental, operating costs and supplies for seeding. Seed costs were obtained from a seed supplier as cost per pound but bulk purchase discounts were not included. Broadcast seeding followed by harrowing was assumed. Monitoring is provided for, as is weed management for up to five years post-reclamation.

5.1.4 Interim and Long-Term Tailings Draindown Management

Interim and long-term solution management costs are not included in this version of the Plan. These costs will be submitted at a later date when more information on the draindown characteristics of the tailings is available.

5.1.5 Removal/Disposal/Salvage of Structures and Equipment

Culverts will be removed from the site. Costs for removal of these facilities were estimated using the *Nevada Standard Reclamation Cost Estimator* version 1.1 to estimate costs directly.

5.1.6 Post Reclamation Maintenance and Monitoring

Post reclamation maintenance costs include labor costs and test fees to perform revegetation, weed, and water quality monitoring for a period of five years after final reclamation is complete.

5.1.7 Equipment Mobilization/Demobilization

Mobilization/demobilization costs have been estimated based on the projected number of pieces of equipment used and the BLM/s Mobilization/Demobilization Cost Estimator.

5.1.8 Agency Administrative/Management Costs

Agency overhead, management, and required contingency costs follow the most recent BLM guidance and are applied in a manner consistent with these practices.

5.2 Summary of Estimated Costs

A summary of the estimated reclamation costs based on the criteria described above is shown in the Reclamation Cost Estimate in Appendix 7.

6 Permit Application Fee

BGMI will submit the fee to the NDEP, Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation as shown in Table 6-1.

Table 6-1: Summary of Application Fee

Cost/acre	Disturbance	Cost (\$)
Public \$1.50	509.6	764.40
Private \$2.50	1,048.2	2,620.50
Total		\$3,384.90

7 Public Safety Declaration

All reclamation planned for the project has been designed to comply with 43 CFR 3809 Surface Management and Nevada regulations relating to providing for the public safety on abandoned mining properties (NAC 513).

8 Acknowledgments

- A. It is understood that should the nature of the operation change, a modified or supplemental Plan of Operations and Reclamation may be required.
- B. It is understood that approval of this Plan of Operations and Reclamation Permit Application does not constitute: (1) certification of ownership to any person named herein; and (2) recognition of the validity of any mining claim herein.
- C. It is understood that a bond equivalent to the actual cost of performing the agreed upon reclamation measures will be required before this plan can be approved. The lead agency in coordination with the cooperating agencies will set bonding and any bond reduction amounts on a site-specific basis.
- D. It is understood that approval of the plan does not relieve me of my responsibility to comply with any other applicable state or federal laws, rules, or regulations.
- E. It is understood that any information provided with this plan that is marked confidential will be treated by the agency in accordance with that agency's laws, rules, and regulations.

I/We have reviewed and agree to comply with the conditions in the Plan of Operations and Reclamation Permit Application, including the recommended changes and reclamation requirements. I/we understand that the bond will not be released until the BLM or the state agency in charge gives written approval of the reclamation work.

Operator

Date

9 References

Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. 1991. *Final Environmental Impact Statement Betze Project*. June 1991.

_____. 2003. *Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Betze Project, Barrick Goldstrike Mines Inc.* January 2003.

Shafer Limited, William. 2004. Memorandum to Dan Anderson (Barrick) from William Shafer titled *Synopsis of Waste Rock Management Plan and Pit Lake Water Quality Study*.

_____. 2006. Technical memorandum from B. Shafer regarding the pit lake chemistry, December 12, 2006.

Vector Engineering, Inc., 2006. Technical memorandum from P. Kowalewski, P.E (Vector) to Dan Anderson (Barrick) entitled *Preliminary Design of Rodeo Creek Realignment – South Wall Option*, October 30, 2006.

_____. 2006a. Technical memorandum from P. Kowalewski, P.E (Vector) to Dan Anderson (Barrick) December regarding the Goldstrike No. 3 tailings facility, 2006.

Nevada Standard Reclamation cost Estimator version 1.1.1, October 31, 2006.

