

Chapter 5 Consultation and Coordination

5.1 Public Participation Summary

Public involvement is an important part of the environmental analysis under the NEPA process. Federal agencies are required to make “diligent efforts” to involve the public early and often in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures, to inform the public by providing public notice of NEPA-related hearings, public meetings, and availability of documents, and to solicit appropriate information from the public (40 Code of Federal Regulation 1506.6).

The goal of the public involvement process is to foster public understanding of the Proposed Action and allow participation in the analysis and decision-making process regarding the proposed BMM North Operations Area Project DEIS. The BLM prepared this EIS to analyze environmental effects of the Proposed Action and a reasonable range of alternatives. The public is being afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the DEIS. “Public” refers to interested citizens, organizations, Native American tribes, and other governmental agencies.

There are a number of opportunities for the public to provide input in the EIS process including the following:

- **Project Proposal:** A revised Plan of Operations was submitted in February 2009.
- **Project Scoping/Issues Identification:** A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the BMM North Operations Area Project was published in the Federal Register on March 30, 2007. The Notice of Intent announced scoping meetings to be held in the neighboring communities of Ely, Elko, and Eureka, Nevada, and invited scoping comments to be submitted to the BLM. Scoping meetings were held in Elko, Ely, and Eureka, Nevada, on May 7, 8, and 9, 2007, respectively. The closing date for acceptance of public comments was May 25, 2007, with the entire public scoping period being open for 56 days. Public notices were published in the Elko Daily Free Press and Ely Daily Times and were also posted in multiple locations in Ely, Elko, and Eureka.
- **Data Collection:** All resources and analytical data used in the analysis have been made available to the public so they have had the opportunity to review and analyze the same body of data as the EIS Team (excluding confidential materials under the Freedom of Information Act).
- **Development of Alternatives:** The BLM has considered public input in development of project alternatives. Based on public input and discussion with the EIS Team, a reasonable range of alternatives has been analyzed that appropriately responds to issues identified during the scoping process. The EIS team consisted of the BLM, Barrick, NDOW, and JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc.
- **DEIS:** The DEIS described the affected environment, potential environmental impacts, and reasonable mitigation measures in plain language and graphics so decision makers and the public could readily understand this information. The BLM invited the public to comment on the DEIS.

- FEIS: Following review of the DEIS, the EIS Team analyzed and responded in writing to public comments on the DEIS in the FEIS. The BLM made appropriate additions and/or corrections necessary to respond to public input on the DEIS. Copies of the FEIS were provided to the same breadth of public that received the DEIS.
- Record of Decision: The Record of Decision states how the selected alternative addresses public issues as well as other factors. Copies of the Record of Decision will be provided to the same breadth of public that received the FEIS. As part of the FEIS, the public has been provided instructions on how a member of the public who is adversely affected by the decision may appeal the decision to the Interior Board of Land Appeals.

5.1.1 DEIS Scoping

Public participation in the development of the BMM North Operations Area Project DEIS focused on identification of issues and concerns with features of the project and development of alternatives. Key elements to date in obtaining the public input with the process include the following:

- Mailing List: A mailing list was developed to include members of the public, agencies, and organizations with interest in the project. The original project mailing list developed in March 2007 is provided in Appendix B. The project scoping statement, Notice of Availability of the DEIS and FEIS, and any other project updates or information will be sent to those on the mailing list. This list will be updated over time and includes the interested public, as well as others that respond to public notices of the project analysis.
- Scoping Statement: In March 2007, a scoping statement (letter) was prepared and sent to all parties on the mailing list. This statement provided an overview of the BMM North Operations Area Project Plan of Operations, identification of preliminary issues, the times, dates, and locations of three separate scoping meetings, a request for written comments, directions on how to submit scoping comments, and identification of BLM contacts. A copy of the scoping letter (March 2007) is included in Appendix B of this document.
- Notice of Intent: A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS was developed by the BLM Egan Field Office, reviewed by the BLM Nevada State Office, BLM Washington Office, and Department of Interior, and published on March 30, 2007, in the Federal Register. The publication of the Notice of Intent initiated the formal 30-day scoping period. A copy of the Notice of Intent is included in Appendix B of this document.
- Legal Notice/News Release: A legal notice of the BMM North Operations Area Project Plan of Operations was prepared by the BLM, published in the Elko Daily Free Press and Ely Daily Times, and distributed to locations in Ely, Elko, and Eureka. A news release was also distributed to the appropriate publications. Copies of the legal notice and news release are included in Appendix B of this document.
- Scoping Meetings: Scoping meetings were held in Elko, Ely, and Eureka, Nevada. These were informal open houses where information on the NEPA process and project specifics were displayed with posters, handouts, and presentations. Representatives of BLM, NDOW, and Barrick attended the meetings. Public attendees at the meetings were asked to sign a register and invited to provide scoping comments. A list of the public attendees is provided in Table 5-1. No additional meetings were scheduled or requested during the scoping process. Other future meetings may be held, as

necessary during the development of the EIS, between the BLM and interested individuals, agencies, and organizations to obtain additional input.

TABLE 5-1 INDIVIDUALS PRESENT AT THE PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS

Name	Organization
Herb Ley	BMM
Richard Curnow	BMM
Marti Collins	USFWS – Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Rich Weber	JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Dave McClure	BMM
George Fennemore	Barrick Gold Corporation – Cortez Gold Mines
Steve Schoen	Barrick North America
Pete Kowalewski	Tetra Tech
Diane Rice	Wells Fargo
Tom Rice	BMM
Lou Schack	Barrick North America
Dan Callaghan	BMM
Scott Holmes	Barrick
Jeffrey Merchant	Parsons Behle & Latimer
Tina Reynolds	BMM
Scott Wilson	Scott E. Wilson Consulting
Nick Atiemo	BMM
Val Sawyer	SRK Consulting
Rory Lamp	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Dave McClure	BMM
Judy Overton	Eureka County, Department of Natural Resources
Jon Overton	Nevada Resource Advisory Council
Jim Ithurrealde	Eureka County Commissioner
Don Harris	Midway Gold Corp.
John Pekrul	Barrick North America
Rob Geskey	Elevation Technical Services
Dave McClure	BMM
Tom Bath	Bath Lumber

5.1.2 Public Comment on DEIS

The Notice of Availability was published in the Federal Register on December 19, 2008 (Volume 73 Number 245) for the BMM North Operations Area Project DEIS starting the public comment period. The public comment period lasted 45 days from December 19, 2009 until February 2, 2009.

- **Legal Notice/News Release:** A news release was prepared by the BLM Ely District office announcing the start of the 45-day public comment period, identifying the time and locations of public comment meetings, and inviting public comment on the North Operations Area DEIS. This news release was posted on the BLM Ely District web page on December 19, 2008 and published in The Ely Times on December 13, 2008. An announcement with this information was published in the Elko Daily Free Press on January 2, 3, and 5, 2009.
- **Public Meetings:** Three public comment meetings were held during the public comment period. These meeting were held in Ely, Nevada on January 6, 2009; Elko, Nevada on January 7, 2009; and in Eureka, Nevada on January 8, 2009. Project information was presented in an open house format at these meetings with BLM and Barrick

representatives present to discuss concerns and answer questions. Table 5-2 lists individuals present at these meetings.

- Public Comments: Individuals, public agencies, and non-profit organizations submitted 17 letters containing comments on the DEIS. The comments received and responses to these comments are contained in Appendix C.

TABLE 5-2 INDIVIDUALS PRESENT AT THE PUBLIC COMMENT MEETINGS

Ely, Nevada Meeting, January 6, 2009	
Curt Lee	Bill Wilson
Dave McClure	Matt Zietlow
Steve Shoen	Sheri Wysong
Elko, Nevada Meeting January 7, 2009	
David Peirce	Joe Giraud
Teresa Conner	Stephanie Stoeberl
Nick Atiemo	Val Sawyer
Chet Littledyke	Larson R. Bill
Andy Cole	Jason Bill
Amanda Steensen	Cheryl Mose-Temoke
Caleb McAdoo	Julie Bill
Dave McClure	Ken Mow
Lou Schack	Pat Rogers
Eureka, Nevada January 8, 2009	
Jake Tibbitts	Cliff Krall
Zach Spencer	Jim Brady
Wade Bohrn	Dave McClure
Bob Stephenson	Gina Solari
Jim Ithurralde	Randy Buffington
Tyler Hilkwich	Evan Verkade
Jon Kamensky	Paul Clark
Chris Kamensky	Debbie Clark

5.2 Criteria and Methods by Which Public Input Is Evaluated

All comments received during initial scoping were recorded and summarized in a Summary of Public Input (Table 1-3). The written comments are part of the Project Administrative Record.

The DEIS with a cover letter was mailed to those who commented during initial scoping and those on the mailing list who have indicated their desire to receive a copy. The cover letter advised the recipient of the process to submit comments on the DEIS, the time frames for submitting comments, the time and place of any planned public meetings, and the contact person for additional information. 40 Code of Federal Regulations 1502-1508 requires that a mandatory number of copies be sent to specific agencies.

A Notice of Availability of the DEIS was provided by the BLM to the Environmental Protection Agency to publish in the Federal Register. This Notice of Availability was reviewed by the BLM Nevada State Office, BLM Washington Office, and Department of Interior before being submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency. The publication date of the Notice of Availability began a minimum 45-day public comment period on the DEIS. The BLM also published a Notice of Availability for the DEIS in the same newspapers that published the Scoping Legal Notice. This notice announced the availability of the DEIS for review and comment and advised how to submit comments on the DEIS, the time frames for submitting

comments, the time and place of any planned public meetings, and the contact person for additional information. A copy of the DEIS was made available on the BLM Ely District web page.

When the Notice of Availability for the DEIS was published, public meetings were held to receive comments on the draft. Each comment received on the DEIS was recorded and analyzed for its content to develop comment points. Complete and objective responses to each public comment were developed as a separate section (Appendix C) of the FEIS. The content of the DEIS was modified as required to respond to substantive comments received and to develop the FEIS. The comments or public concern statements on the DEIS and the agencies' responses to same are included in the FEIS (Appendix C).

The FEIS was mailed to all those on the mailing list who have indicated their desire to receive a copy and to those who commented during scoping or on the DEIS. The FEIS cover letter briefly explains that a FEIS has been prepared for the BMM North Operations Area Project, describes whether it modifies or replaces the DEIS, describes any major changes in alternatives from the DEIS, and describes when the Record of Decision is anticipated to be released. 40 Code of Federal Regulation 1502-1508 requires that a mandatory number of copies be sent to specific agencies.

A Notice of Availability of the FEIS has been provided by the BLM to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to publish in the Federal Register in the same manner as described above for the DEIS and is posted on the BLM Ely District Office website.

The Record of Decision will be mailed to all those on the mailing list who have indicated their desire to receive a copy and to those who received the FEIS. The Record of Decision will include an explanation of the appeals process. A legal notice announcing the availability of the Record of Decision will be published in the same newspapers that published the Scoping Legal Notice. Any appeal of the Record of Decision filed by the public will be responded to in a timely manner.

5.3 List of Agencies, Organizations, and Persons to Whom Copies of this Statement are Sent

A hard copy or electronic version of the Bald Mountain Mine North Operations Area Project FEIS was sent to the individuals and organizations listed in Table 5-3. Hard copies of the FEIS were also available at the BLM Ely District office and at the BLM Egan Field Office web page.

TABLE 5-3 LIST OF RECIPIENTS TO RECEIVE THE FEIS

White Pine County Library	Washoe County Library
Wells Branch Library	Elko County Library
Eureka Branch Library	Karen Rajala White Pine County Economic Diversification Council
John Hadder Great Basin Resource Watch	Todd Suessmith Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Richard A. Orr Sustainable Grazing Coalition	Nevada Department of Administration Nevada State Clearinghouse
Steven Tuttle	Martha Collins Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Tom Bath Bath Lumber Co.	Don Harris Midway Gold Corp.

Diane Rice Wells Fargo	Judy Overton Eureka County Department of Natural Resources
John Overton Eureka County Natural Resource Advisory Commission	Jim Ithurralde Eureka County Commissioners
Matt Zietlow Barrick Bald Mountain Mine	Bureau of Land Management Ely District Office
Bureau of Land Management Elko District Office	Bureau of Land Management Battle Mountain District Office
Brian Amme Bureau of Land Management Nevada State Office	Katie Miller Nevada Department of Wildlife
Terry Svalberg Bridger-Teton National Forest Pinedale Ranger District	Barbara Ott USFS Teams
Sue Howle USFS Teams	Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance Oakland Region
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Federal Activities	Gwen Wilder U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance
U.S. Department of the Interior Natural Resources Library	U.S. Department of the Interior Office of NEPA
Bureau of Land Management Planning Office	National Operations Center Division of Resource Services
Bureau of Reclamation Denver Federal Center	Assistant Director, Endangered Species U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service
Chief, Environment Operations & Analysis Branch U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service	Division of Environmental Compliance National Park Service
Environmental Affairs Program U.S. Geological Survey	Office of Deputy A/S of the USAF
Chief, Planning Division South Pacific Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Office of Environmental Compliance
U.S. Department of the Interior Office of External & Intergovernmental Affairs	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Jeanne Geselbracht Environmental Protection Agency Region 9	State Historic Preservation Office
Nevada Office Director U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Washington Office
David Gonzales Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone	Renaee Pete Cedar City Band of Paiutes
Rupert Steele Confederate Tribes of the Goshute Indian Reservation	Jeannine Borchardth Indian Peaks Band
Jerry Millet Duckwater Shoshone Tribe	Glenn Rogers Shivwits Band of Paiutes
Diane Buckner Ely Shoshone Tribe	Alfreda Mitre Las Vegas Paiute Tribe
Ona Sequndo Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians	Lora Tom Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
John C Carpenter, Assemblyman Nevada State Legislature	Pete Goicoechea
John Hickman, Mayor City of Ely	Jane Feldman Sierra Club

Kathryn Landreth The Nature Conservancy	Jimmie Dale Lee
Stephen Marich City of Ely	Katie Fite Western Watersheds Project
Paul B. Aguirre NV Energy	Jerry Koglitz National Planning and Permitting Directory Technical Knowledge and Innovation
Valerie J. Randall AECOM Environmental	Larson R. Bill TeMoak South Fork and Western Shoshone Defense Project
Kenneth Moss	Emiliano McClane South Fork Band Environmental
Patrick Rogers	Larry Kibby Elko Indian Colony
South Fork Band Council South Fork Indian Reservation	Intentionally Left Blank

5.4 Persons, Groups, and Agencies Consulted

Barrick North America

Bob Brock Nevada Lands Manager
Tasha Liebsack Land Department
Ben Patterson Ranch Manager
Steve Schoen Manager of Permitting
Bill Upton Environmental Director
Matt Zietlow Environmental Manager

Elevation Technical Services

Rob Gelsky

Enviroscientists, Inc.

Rich DeLong President

Mine Mappers, Inc.

Steve Osterberg, Ph.D., P.G.

Native American Tribes Receiving Letters Soliciting Information

Ely Shoshone Tribe
Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Indian Reservation
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe
Cedar City Band of Paiutes
Te-Moak Tribes of the Western Shoshone
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians
Indian Peaks Band
Shivwits Band of Paiute Tribe
Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
Las Vegas Paiute Tribe
Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone-Elko Band
Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone-Wells Band

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Tom McKay Senior Soil Scientist

Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation

Jim Shabi

Parsons Behle and Latimer

Jim Butler

Schafer Limited LLC

William M. Schafer, Ph.D.

SRK Consulting, Inc.

Gary Back Principal Ecologist
Val Sawyer Principal Consultant

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Marti Collins Refuge Manager
Jeff Mackay Wildlife Biologist

U.S. Forest Service, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Jarbidge and Ruby Mountains Ranger Districts

Dwayne Winslow Wildlife Biologist

White Pine County Assessors Office

Bob Bishop

White Pine County Office of Economic Diversity

Karen Rajala

White Pine County Road Department

Kerry Sprouse Superintendent

5.5 List of Preparers

TABLE 5-4 LIST OF PREPARERS AND QUALIFICATIONS

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, EGAN FIELD OFFICE		
Lynn Bjorklund	Project Lead	MS Biology BS Biology and Agronomy 20 years' experience
Shawn M. Gibson	Cultural Resources and Paleontology	BS Geology BA and MA Archaeology (Anthropology) 11 years' experience
Chris Hanefeld	Public Relations	Associate Degree Applied Arts 23 years' experience
Kari Harrison	Soils, Surface Water, Water Quality, Wetland, Riparian	BS Soils Science 7 years' experience
Craig Hoover	Range	BS Range Management 10 years' experience
Kalem Lenard	Recreation, Visual Resources	BS Geography 5 years' experience

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, EGAN FIELD OFFICE (CONTINUED)		
Marian Lichtler	Wildlife, Threatened and Endangered Species, Special Status Species, Migratory Birds	BS Natural Resources 17 years' experience
Doris Metcalf	Lands	AAS Office Administration 21 years' experience
Dan Netcher	Water, Groundwater	BS Geology 31 years' experience
Benjamin Noyes	Wild Horses	BS Agriculture Science 4 years' experience
Melanie Peterson	Hazardous Materials/Wastes	BAS Management in Technology 2 years' experience
Jake Rajala	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	MS Forest and Range Management MA Anthropology BA Anthropology 35 years' experience
Sheri Wysong	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	BS Anthropology 18 years' experience
Bonnie Million	Non-Native Invasive Species	BS Biology 7 years' experience
Elvis Wall	Native American Coordinator	BS Social Sciences/History 7 years' experience
Jeff Weeks	Field Manager, Egan Field Office	BS Range Ecology 30 years' experience
Bill Wilson	Geology	BS Geology 39 years' experience
U.S. FOREST SERVICE TEAMS ENTERPRISE (CONTRACTOR TO THE BLM)		
Susan Howle	USFS TEAMS Enterprise Project Co-Lead	MS Environmental Geography BS Geoscience 10 years' experience
Barbra Ott	USFS TEAMS Enterprise Socioeconomics	MS Management, with an emphasis in public administration and a special study of rural community planning BA Business Administration 13 years' experience doing social and economic analysis, 17 years in business management
Terry Svalberg	USFS TEAMS Enterprise Air Quality	BS Soil Science 20 years' experience as soil scientist and 9 years' experience in Air Quality
NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE (COOPERATING AGENCY)		
Rory Lamp	Biologist, Wildlife Resources	27 years' experience
Katie Miller	Biologist, Eastern Region Mining Biologist	6 years' experience
Tony Wasley	Game Biologist	16 years' experience
Jason Williams	Non-game Biologist	
JBR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. (CONTRACTOR TO THE BLM)		
Brian Boyd	Soils, Range, Wild Horses	BS Range Resource and Wildland Soil Science, minor in Geology 6 years' experience

JBR ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. (CONTRACTOR TO THE BLM) (CONTINUED)		
Brian Buck	Supporting Principal	BS Geology MS Geological Engineering 30 years' experience
Catherine Clark	Project Manager	BA Geography MS Environmental Resource Management 20 years' experience
Mark Demuth	EIS Technical Support	BS Education M Ed Education MS Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences 20 years' experience
Richard Duncan	Visual, Land Use, WSA, Socioeconomics, Environmental Justice	BA Economics MS Biology 10 years' experience
Dulcy Engelmeier	Administration, Formatting	15 years' experience
Heather Haan	Administration, Formatting	BA Journalism 5 years' experience formatting and editing
Dan Heiser	Noise, Air Quality	BS Chemical Engineering MBA University of Michigan 26 years' experience
Chris Johnson	Noise, Air Quality	BS Math/Earth Science 28 years' experience
Debbie Lassiter	Hazardous Materials	BS Economics in progress 15 years' experience
Kristi McKinnon	Vegetation, Threatened and Endangered Plant Species, Sensitive Species, Noxious Weeds	BS Land Rehabilitation, minor in Soils 5 years' experience
Tammy Odegard	Administrative Record	15 years' experience
Michael Ross	GIS, Drafting	BS Biology 3 years' drafting experience
Michael Derby	GIS, Drafting	BS Hydrogeology 5 years' drafting experience
Christine Johnson	GIS, Drafting	BS Geology 8 years' drafting experience
Stephanie Stoeberl	Water Resources, Geology, Paleontology	BS Environmental Geology MS Geochemistry 6 years' experience
Dave Worley	Wildlife, Threatened and Endangered Wildlife Species, Sensitive Species, Wetlands, Riparian	BS Biology MS Zoology 25 years' experience
Richard Weber	Assistant Project Manager	BS Biology MS Biology-Wildlife 18 years' experience
KAUTZ ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC.		
Bob Kautz	Cultural Resources	BA Anthropology PhD Anthropology 20 years' experience