

## 5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

This chapter reviews agency and public consultation and coordination that occurred prior to and during preparation of this EIS. It also includes the list of agencies and individuals who received the draft document.

### 5.1 Public Participation and Scoping

This environmental document was prepared in consultation and coordination with various federal, state, and local agencies, organizations, and individuals. Agency consultation and public participation have been accomplished through a variety of formal and informal methods, including scoping meetings, responses to e-mails, meetings with individual public agencies and interest groups. This section summarizes these activities.

Public involvement in the EIS process includes the steps necessary to identify and address public concerns and needs. The public involvement process assists agencies in: 1) broadening the information base for decision making; 2) informing the public about proposed actions and potential long-term impacts that could result from the projects; and 3) ensuring that public needs are understood by the agencies.

Public participation in the EIS process is required by NEPA at four specific points: scoping period, review of Draft EIS, review of Final EIS, and receipt of the ROD.

- **Scoping:** The public is provided a 30-day scoping period to disclose potential issues and concerns associated with the Proposed Action. Information obtained by the agencies during public scoping is combined with issues identified by the agencies and this forms the scope of the EIS.
- **Draft EIS Comment Period:** A 45-day Draft EIS comment period is initiated by publication of NOA for the Draft EIS in the FR. A public meeting will be held in Hadley and Tonopah, Nevada, during the 45-day comment period.
- **Final EIS Review:** A 30-day Final EIS review period is initiated by publication of NOA for the Final EIS in the FR.
- **ROD:** Subsequent to the 30-day review period for the Final EIS, ROD would be prepared.

The BLM initiated the public scoping process by publishing a NOI to prepare an EIS in the FR on December 26, 2006 (FR volume 71, Number 247). Public scoping meetings were held on January 16, 2007 in Hadley, and January 17, 2007 in Tonopah, Nevada, to obtain input on issues and concerns to be evaluated in the EIS. The scope of the EIS reflects input received from the public and from appropriate government agencies. The scoping comments were summarized and included in the EIS Preparation Plan.

The following are the key scoping issues identified for the proposed project.

- Potential groundwater and surface water impacts from pit dewatering.
- Potential water quality impacts from acid-generating waste rock.
- Potential impacts related to pit lake formation.

## **5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

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- Potential impacts related to mercury in the ore.
- Potential impacts to cultural resources.
- Development of a mitigation plan to protect cultural resources and access.
- Backfilling of existing and proposed pits with waste rock.
- Closure of heap leach pads.
- Seed mixes to be used for rehabilitation.
- Utilize consistent lighting mitigation measures that follow Dark Sky lighting practices.
- Utilize consistent mitigation measures that address logical placement of improvements and use of appropriate screening and structure colors.
- Noxious weeds in the project area.
- Big game and upland game species presence in the project area.
- Use fencing to prevent big game access to heap leach pads.
- Potential impacts to bat species and habitat and the development of appropriate mitigation.
- Potential impacts to federal- and state-listed species.
- Potential noise impacts from mining equipment.
- Relocation of a 230-kV transmission line, which will require a permit.
- Potential impacts to water quality, air quality, noise levels, safety, land values, and access to private property.

### **5.2 List of Contacts**

The following agencies, businesses, organizations, and individuals were contacted in the course of preparing this EIS.

#### **5.2.1 Federal Agencies**

98th RANW/XPL  
Bureau of Land Management  
Mojave South - Great Basin Resource Advisory Council  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. Air Force (HQ-USAF/LEEV)/Environmental Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/Regulatory Section  
U.S. Department of Energy/Office of Environmental Compliance (EH-23)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. EPA, Region IX  
USAF, Office of the Deputy A/S Environment, Safety, Occupational Health  
USDA, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest  
USDI, Bureau of Reclamation/Denver Federal Center (D-150)  
USDI, Geological Survey/Environmental Affairs Program  
USDI, National Park Service (2310)/Division of Environmental Quality  
USDI, Natural Resources Library  
USDI, Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance  
USDI, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**5.2.2 State Agencies**

Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association  
Nevada Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Natural Heritage Program  
Nevada Department of Transportation  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Air Pollution Control  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Waste Management  
Nevada Division of Minerals  
Nevada Legislature  
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office  
State of Nevada/Department/Admin. State Clearinghouse  
Wild Horse Commission

**5.2.3 Local Agencies**

Kingston Town Board  
Nye County Commissioner  
Nye County Environmental Department  
Smoky Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Tonopah Chamber of Commerce  
Tonopah Public Utilities  
Tonopah Town Board  
Town of Manhattan  
Town of Round Mountain

**5.2.4 Tribal Organizations**

Ely Shoshone Tribe  
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe  
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe  
Yomba Shoshone Tribe

## **5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION**

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### **5.2.5 Private Organizations and Companies**

Nevada Cattlemen's Association  
Nevada Miner's & Prospector's Association  
Nevada Mining Association  
Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association  
NVEnergy

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

The following comprises the mailing list for the distribution of the EIS.

#### **5.3.1 Federal Agencies**

98th RANW/XPL  
Bureau of Land Management  
Mojave South - Great Basin Resource Advisory Council  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
U.S. Air Force (HQ-USAF/LEEV)/Environmental Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers/Regulatory Section  
U.S. Department of Energy/Office of Environmental Compliance (EH-23)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. EPA, Region IX  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
USAF, Office of the Deputy A/S Environment, Safety, Occupational Health  
USDA, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest  
USDI, Bureau of Reclamation/Denver Federal Center (D-150)  
USDI, Geological Survey/Environmental Affairs Program  
USDI, National Park Service (2310)/Division of Environmental Quality  
USDI, Natural Resources Library  
USDI, Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance  
USDI, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### **5.3.2 State Agencies**

Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association  
Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Nevada Department of Transportation  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Air Pollution Control  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Mining Reg. and Reclamation  
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection/Bureau of Waste Management  
Nevada Division of Minerals  
Nevada Legislature  
Nevada State Historic Preservation Office  
State of Nevada/Department/Administration State Clearinghouse  
Wild Horse Commission

**5.3.3 Elected Officials**

Joni Eastley, Nye County Commissioner  
John Ensign, U.S. Senator  
Ed Goedhart, Assemblyman-elect  
Jim Gibbons, Governor  
Dean Heller, U.S. Congressman  
Harry Reid, U.S. Senator  
Lorinda Wichman, Nye County Commissioner

**5.3.4 County and Local Agencies**

Kingston Town Board  
Nye County Environmental Department  
Smoky Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Tonopah Chamber of Commerce  
Tonopah Public Utilities  
Tonopah Town Board  
Town of Manhattan  
Town of Round Mountain

**5.3.5 Tribal Organizations**

Ely Shoshone Tribe  
Duckwater Shoshone Tribe  
Timbisha Shoshone Tribe  
Yomba Shoshone Tribe

**5.3.6 Newspapers and Libraries**

Round Mountain Junior-Senior High School  
Round Mountain Public Library  
Tonopah Times – Bonanza  
University of Nevada, Reno/Mackay School of Earth Science and Engineering  
University of Reno/Graduate Program in Environmental Sciences and Health

**5.3.7 Other Organizations**

Earthworks  
Friends of Nevada Wilderness  
Great Basin Resource Watch  
High Country Hay  
Lahontan Audubon Society  
Nevada Cattlemen's Association  
Nevada Miner's & Prospector's Association  
Nevada Mining Association

## 5.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

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Sierra Club  
Nevada Wildlife  
Truckee River Ranches  
Western Mining Action Project  
Western Watersheds Project

### 5.3.8 Industry/Business

Balfour Holdings  
Haas & Associates  
Kinross Gold USA  
Kuipers and Associates  
Mackay School of Earth Science & Engineering  
Minex Resources, Inc.  
NVEnergy  
Round Mountain Gold Corporation

### 5.3.9 Individuals

Robert Angrisano  
Virginia Anne  
Dan and Monica Antunovich  
Linda Baker  
Janet Bair  
Lisa Belenky  
Russel (Jim) Berg  
Bob Bottom  
Jim Butler  
Barbara Culbertson  
John Darrough  
Ken Darrough  
Neva Darrough  
Norma Darrough  
Annette George  
Darlene Hooper Dewey  
Stanley Hooper  
Felix Ike  
Steve Johnson  
Don Osterhoudt  
Ron Osterhoudt  
Cindy Marques  
Rob Mrowka  
Darlene Murphy  
Ben Reilly  
Marge Sill  
Burton and Daisy Smith