

Dated: March 1, 2005.

**Michael D. Olsen,**

*Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary—  
Indian Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NV-060-3809]

#### Notice of Availability for the Ruby Hill Mine Expansion—East Archimedes Project Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management,  
Interior.

**COOPERATING AGENCIES:** Nevada  
Department of Wildlife and Eureka  
County.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations found at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, notice is hereby given of the availability of the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) for comment, prepared by the Battle Mountain Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The statement analyzes the environmental effects of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternatives.

**DATES:** Written comments must be postmarked or otherwise delivered by 4:30 p.m. (Pacific Time Zone) by no later than 45 days after the date of publication of this Notice in the **Federal Register**. Comments may also be submitted at public meetings to be held in Battle Mountain, NV and Eureka, NV. Dates of the meetings will be published in local newspapers.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be addressed to the Bureau of Land Management, attn: Caleb Hiner, Battle Mountain Field Office, 50 Bastian Road, Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820. Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the address listed below during regular business hours, Monday-Friday, excluding holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. However, we will not consider anonymous

comments. Such requests to withhold your name or street address from public review will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives of officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

A limited number of copies of the DSEIS may be obtained at the Battle Mountain BLM Field Office.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Caleb Hiner, Battle Mountain BLM at (775) 635-4052.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Proposed Action would develop the East Archimedes deposit which was defined in the original EIS (approved February 3, 1997) as a Reasonably Foreseeable Future Action. The Proposed Action would consist of an extension of the existing pit, expansion of the existing west and east waste rock disposal areas, the expansion of the existing heap leach pad, and construction of dewatering facilities. Under the Proposed Action, an estimated additional 744 acres of disturbance would occur. All disturbances proposed under the expansion falls within the footprint of the project boundary as analyzed in the original EIS.

**Gerald M. Smith,**

*Field Manager.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Quarterly Status Report of Water Service, Repayment, and Other Water- Related Contract Negotiations

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation,  
Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of contractual actions that have been proposed to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and were pending through December 31, 2004, and contract actions that have been completed or discontinued since the last publication of this notice on October 4, 2004. From the date of this publication, future quarterly notices during this calendar year will be limited to new, modified, discontinued, or completed contract actions. This annual notice should be used as a point of reference to identify changes in future notices. This notice is one of a variety of means

used to inform the public about proposed contractual actions for capital recovery and management of project resources and facilities consistent with section 9(f) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939. Additional announcements of individual contract actions may be published in the **Federal Register** and in newspapers of general circulation in the areas determined by Reclamation to be affected by the proposed action.

**ADDRESSES:** The identity of the approving officer and other information pertaining to a specific contract proposal may be obtained by calling or writing the appropriate regional office at the address and telephone number given for each region in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Sandra L. Simons, Manager, Contract Services Office, Bureau of Reclamation, PO Box 25007, Denver, Colorado 80225-0007; telephone 303-445-2902.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Consistent with section 9(f) of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 and the rules and regulations published in 52 FR 11954, April 13, 1987 (43 CFR 426.22), Reclamation will publish notice of proposed or amendatory contract actions for any contract for the delivery of project water for authorized uses in newspapers of general circulation in the affected area at least 60 days prior to contract execution. Announcements may be in the form of news releases, legal notices, official letters, memorandums, or other forms of written material. Meetings, workshops, and/or hearings may also be used, as appropriate, to provide local publicity. The public participation procedures do not apply to proposed contracts for the sale of surplus or interim irrigation water for a term of 1 year or less. Either of the contracting parties may invite the public to observe contract proceedings. All public participation procedures will be coordinated with those involved in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act. Pursuant to the "Final Revised Public Participation Procedures" for water resource-related contract negotiations, published in 47 FR 7763, February 22, 1982, a tabulation is provided of all proposed contractual actions in each of the five Reclamation regions. When contract negotiations are completed, and prior to execution, each proposed contract form must be approved by the Secretary of the Interior, or pursuant to delegated or redelegated authority, the Commissioner of Reclamation or one of the regional directors. In some instances, congressional review and approval of a report, water rate, or other terms and