

Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, Departments of Environmental Quality, Wildlife and Fisheries, and Natural Resources; DOI; NOAA; EPA; and USDA.

### Background

The Final PDARP/PEIS provides for TIGs to propose phasing restoration projects across multiple restoration plans. A TIG may propose in a draft restoration plan conceptual projects to fund for an information-gathering planning phase, such as E&D (phase 1). This allows TIGs to develop information needed to fully consider a subsequent implementation phase in a later restoration plan (phase 2). In the final Phase 1 RP #1, the LA TIG selected six conceptual projects for E&D, using funds from the wetlands, coastal and nearshore habitats; birds; and habitat projects on federally managed lands restoration types, as provided for in the DWH Consent Decree. Two of those projects that were selected for E&D in the final Phase I RP #1 are the Rabbit Island Restoration project (Rabbit Island project), under the birds restoration type, and the Shoreline Protection at Jean Lafitte Historical National Park and Preserve (Jean Lafitte project) under the habitat projects on federally managed lands restoration type. When E&D for those projects reached a stage where enough information was available to conduct OPA and NEPA analyses on the alternatives, a Phase 2 plan was drafted. Notice of availability of the draft Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3 was published in the **Federal Register** on November 13, 2019 (84 FR 61636). Public comment was encouraged and accepted until December 20, 2019. The LA TIG hosted a public webinar on December 2, 2019, to facilitate public review and comment. The LA TIG considered the public comments received and finalized the Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3. A summary of the public comments received and the LA TIG's responses to those comments are presented in Section 7 of the final Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3.

### Overview of the LA TIG Draft Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3

The final Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3 is being released in accordance with OPA NRDA regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 15 CFR part 990, NEPA and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508, the Final PDARP/PEIS, and the Consent Decree. The Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3 provides OPA and NEPA analyses for a reasonable range of design alternatives for the Rabbit Island Restoration and Jean Lafitte Shoreline Restoration projects, and identifies the LA TIG's

preferred design alternatives, those which the LA TIG believes best meet the objectives of the two projects. In accordance with NEPA, as part of the final Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3, the Trustees issued a FONSI. The FONSI is available in Appendix E of the Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3.

The Rabbit Island Restoration project meets the goal of restoring and conserving birds by restoring 87.8 acres of the island's original 200-acre footprint for bird habitat. This would be done by raising the elevation of Rabbit Island using dredged fill material from the Calcasieu Ship Channel as the borrow source area. Total cost for this project is approximately \$15,600,000.

The Jean Lafitte Shoreline Protection project implements a nearly continuous rock breakwater, with rock elbows protecting fish gaps along the eastern shorelines of Lake Cataouche, Lake Salvador, and Bayou Bardeaux in the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. Implementation is proposed in two increments, the northern and the southern portions of the project area. In the final Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3, the LA TIG approves to fund only the southern portion of the project at this time. The northern portion may be funded at a later date. Total cost for this project is approximately \$20,448,500.

### Administrative Record

The documents comprising the Administrative Record for the Phase 2 RP/EA #1.3 can be viewed electronically at <https://www.doi.gov/deepwaterhorizon/adminrecord>.

### Authority

The authority for this action is the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2701 *et seq.*), its implementing Natural Resource Damage Assessment regulations found at 15 CFR part 990, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations found at 40 CFR parts 1500–1508.

### Mary Josie Blanchard,

*Department of the Interior, Director of Gulf of Mexico Restoration.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[LLNVW00000.L5110000. GN0000. LVEMF1805980.18X .MO#4500142520]

### Notice of Availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed POA11 Project—Modification to the Plan of Operations for the Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines, Pershing County, Nevada

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (NEPA), and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Humboldt River Field Office, Winnemucca, Nevada has prepared a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and by this notice is announcing its availability.

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

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of Coeur Rochester and Packard Mines POA11 Project Plan of Operations and EIS are available for public inspection at the Winnemucca District BLM Office, 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, Nevada. Interested persons may also review the Final EIS on the internet at <https://go.usa.gov/xPdjC>.

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Kathleen Rehberg, Project Lead, telephone: (775) 623–1500; address: 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard, Winnemucca, NV 89445. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1–800–877–8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The applicant, Coeur Rochester Inc., has requested to modify its approved Plan of Operations at the Rochester and Packard mines by expanding its operations. The mine is located approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, Nevada. The mine is currently authorized disturbance up to 2203.1 acres (approximately 164.6 acres of private land and 2038.5 acres of public land),

which was permitted under a series of EISs and Environmental Assessments from the initial Plan of Operations in 1986 through the latest EIS in 2015. Coeur Rochester, Inc. is proposing to expand and optimize its current operations. It proposes to expand mining in both of its current pits (the Rochester and Packard pits) and move, relocate, or expand heap leach pads, waste rock dumps, haul roads, access road, water pipeline, and processing facilities. The proposal would increase disturbance by 2,815.4 acres (435.2 acres on private land and 2380.2 acres on public land).

Mining of the Rochester Pit would extend below the groundwater resulting in a permanent pit lake after closure. Additional, potentially acid-generating material would be excavated and would be processed as ore or stored according to its Waste Rock Storage Plan. The plan would also necessitate an upgrade in power distribution lines and a substation. With the proposed expansion, mine life would be extended to 2033, and would be followed by mine closure and reclamation.

The EIS describes and analyzes the proposed Project's direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on all affected resources. In addition to the Proposed Action, the following alternatives are also analyzed in the document: Alternative 1, which is an alternate method to manage and store potentially acid generating material; Alternative 2 which was developed to address and manage pit lake development and water quality; and the No Action Alternative.

A Notice of Availability (NOA) of the Draft EIS for the proposed POA11 Project was published in the **Federal Register** on October 18, 2019 (FR Doc No: 2019-55979). Two open house public meetings were held during the comment period. The BLM received seven letters with public comments during the 45-day comment period. Six of the letters contained 18 individual substantive comments which included concerns on potential impacts to grazing allotments, storage and management of potentially acid-generating waste rock, mine closure, groundwater quality, pit lake quality, springs, and potential impacts to community wells for the town of Lovelock, Nevada. These comments were considered and addressed in Appendix F (Draft Environmental Impact Statement Public Comments and BLM Responses) of the Final EIS.

Comments on the Draft EIS received from the public and internal BLM review were considered and incorporated, as appropriate, into the Final EIS. Public comments resulted in

the addition of clarifying text or corrections, but did not significantly change the proposed action.

(Authority: 40 CFR 1501.7)

**David Kampwerth,**

*Field Manager, Humboldt River Field Office.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

[RR02054000, 19XR0687NA, RX.18527901.3000000]

#### Central Valley Project Improvement Act 2020 Criteria for Evaluating Water Management Plans Standard Criteria

**AGENCY:** California-Great Basin—Interior Region 10, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of the Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Bureau of Reclamation has made available to the public the draft 2020 Criteria for Evaluating Water Management Plans (Standard Criteria) for public review and comment. Reclamation is publishing this notice in order to allow the public an opportunity to review the draft 2020 Standard Criteria.

**DATES:** Submit written comments on the preliminary determinations on or before March 25, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Ms. Charlene Stemen, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, CGB-400, Sacramento, CA 95825; or via email at [cstemen@usbr.gov](mailto:cstemen@usbr.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To be placed on a mailing list for any subsequent information, please contact Ms. Charlene Stemen at [cstemen@usbr.gov](mailto:cstemen@usbr.gov) or at 916-978-5218 (TDD 978-5608).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3405(e) of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (Title 34 Pub. L. 102-575) requires the Secretary of the Interior to, among other things, “develop criteria for evaluating the adequacy of all water conservation plans” developed by certain contractors. According to Section 3405(e)(1), these criteria must promote “the highest level of water use efficiency reasonably achievable by project contractors using best available cost-effective technology and best management practices.” In accordance with this legislative mandate, the Bureau of Reclamation developed and published the Standard Criteria, which is updated every 3 years.

We invite the public to comment on our preliminary (*i.e.*, draft) 2020 Standard Criteria.

A copy of the draft 2020 Standard Criteria will be available for review at Reclamation's office in Sacramento, California, located at 2800 Cottage Way, CGB-410, Sacramento, CA 95825. If you wish to review a copy of the draft 2020 Standard Criteria or receive an electronic copy via email, please contact Ms. Stemen or visit <https://www.usbr.gov/mp/watershare>.

**Richard Woodley,**

*Regional Resources Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, California-Great Basin—Interior Region 10.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

[S1D1S SS08011000 SX064A000 201S180110; S2D2S SS08011000 SX064A000 20XS501520; OMB Control Number 1029-0024]

#### Agency Information Collection Activities; Procedures and Criteria for Approval or Disapproval of State Program Submissions

**AGENCY:** Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Interior.  
**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE), are proposing to renew an information collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 24, 2020.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments on this information collection request (ICR) by mail to the Mark Gehlhar, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, 1849 C. Street NW, Room 4556-MIB, Washington, DC 20240; or by email to [mgehlhar@osmre.gov](mailto:mgehlhar@osmre.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 1029-0024 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request additional information about this ICR, contact Mark Gehlhar by email at [mgehlhar@osmre.gov](mailto:mgehlhar@osmre.gov), or by telephone at 202-208-2716.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal