



May 7, 2007

Helena Independent Record, Montana Standard, Boulder Monitor, and Jefferson County Courier

**RE: Application for an Operating Permit for Elkhorn Goldfields, Inc for the Golden Dream project, an Underground gold mine located in Jefferson County**

Dear Editor:

Please place the following notice in the legal publication section of your newspaper once each week for three consecutive weeks:

Legal Notice

Notice of Application for an Operating Permit (pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-353(1), MCA).

Elkhorn Goldfields, Inc of Boulder, MT filed an application on April 19, 2007 for an Operating Permit for its Golden Dream project located near Boulder, MT from the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena.

Elkhorn Goldfields Inc. is seeking approval to conduct underground mining operations near the old mining town of Elkhorn in Jefferson County. The project site is in portions of Sections 10, 11, 14, and 15 in Township 6 North, Range 3 West.

The project is located approximately 19 road miles from the town of Boulder. The activities would take place north of the old mining town of Elkhorn. The facilities and surface disturbance associated with the mine plan would be on private lands owned or controlled by Elkhorn Goldfields, Inc. Although Elkhorn Goldfields Inc. does have unpatented mining claims on the Deer Lodge National Forest, impact on lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service from this program will be limited to access over four small segments of a pre-existing road, which crosses approximately 1,200 feet of Forest Service property. A Road Use Permit is in place for the use of this road and is on file at the Jefferson Ranger District.

The project would consist of a 500 to 1000 ton-per-day mechanized, underground mining operation with the ore being trucked using over-the-road trucks to an offsite mill for concentration. Elkhorn Goldfields Inc. expects to utilize the

dormant Diamond Hill mill located in the mill building at Montana Tunnels mill facility as a custom mill. Mining disturbances would include a total of three underground portals, a facilities area to include offices, shop and equipment areas, a development rock stockpile located in an existing unreclaimed mine pit, a loading facility for stockpiling and loading ore, a water system designed to dewater the ground to be mined, treat water as needed and distribute the water to a series of percolation ponds to re-introduce the water to the groundwater system, and roads sufficient to handle mining traffic.

Total permitted area would be 382.5 acres, while the total disturbance area would be limited to 27.30 acres; 13.41 acres for facilities and mining areas, and an additional 13.89 acres in pre-existing primary and secondary access routes.

Copies of the application can be reviewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Ave., in Helena, MT. Please submit comments or questions on the proposal by June 15, 2007. For information on the project and to submit comments on the proposal, contact:

Herb Rolfes  
Operating Permit Section Supervisor  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Department of Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 200901  
Helena, MT 59620-0901  
(406) 444-3841 or e-mail at hrolfes@mt.gov

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To expedite payment, please send your *invoice, original tear sheet, and affidavit of publication* to DEQ at the address above to the attention of Sue Fairchild. Please indicate that the bill applies to Doc # EMB 5037 124

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Herb Rolfes  
Operating Permit Section Supervisor

HR/sf