



Brian Schweitzer, Governor
Richard H. Opper, Director

P.O. Box 200901 • Helena, MT 59620-0901 • (406) 444-2544 • www.deq.mt.gov

January 8, 2010

Whitehall Ledger, Helena Independent Record, Butte Standard, Missoula Missoulian, Billings Gazette and Great Falls Tribune:

RE: Availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment for an Amendment (East Buttress Dump Extension) to Golden Sunlight Mine Operating Permit 00065 in Jefferson County

Dear Editor:

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

Legal Notice

Golden Sunlight Mine, Inc. (GSM) has submitted an application for an amendment to Operating Permit 00065 to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). GSM's mining operation is located in Jefferson County approximately 5 miles northeast of Whitehall, MT in Sections 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 of Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Section 4, 5 and 6 in Township 1 North, Range 3 West and Sections 1, 13, 24, 25 and 36 in Township 2 North, Range 4 West.

GSM submitted an application for an amendment to the permit (East Buttress Dump Extension) on September 10, 2009. The proposed amendment would increase the permitted disturbance boundary, reconfigure the East Buttress Dump to enhance stability, add an East Buttress Extension buffer zone, a borrow pit buffer zone, an East Buttress Extension access route, and a 5B Optimized Pit East Dump Buffer zone. The permitted disturbance would increase from 3008.4 acres to 3091.7 acres.

After additional geotechnical review of the permitted Buttress Dump, it was determined that a different configuration could significantly increase the stability provided by the East Buttress Dump to the Sunlight Block ground movement. The reconfiguration would add 31 acres located directly east of the currently permitted 200 acre site. However, the total disturbance acreage would

actually be reduced from 200 acres to 144 acres. This would be due to an overall increase in the height of the Buttress Dump.

This proposed amendment to the permit has been reviewed by DEQ and the Bureau of Land Management. DEQ has reviewed the application and has prepared an environmental analysis (EA) on the project. Please submit comments or questions on the Draft EA by February 10, 2010. The application and draft EA can be viewed by the public at DEQ offices at 1520 E. 6th Ave., in Helena, MT or by the following link :

<http://www.deq.mt.gov/ea/hardrock.mcp.x>.

For information on the proposed amendment, 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

To expedite payment, please send your invoice, original tear sheet, and affidavit of publication to DEQ at the address above to the attention of Dick Morrow. Please indicate that the bill applies to doc #50310.95.
Thank you.

Sincerely,



Herb Rolfes
Hard Rock Section Supervisor
Hard Rock Operating Permit Section
Environmental Management Bureau
Phone (406) 444-3841
Fax (406) 444-1499
hrolfes@mt.gov