



**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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**To: Madisonian, Montana Standard and the Bozeman Daily Chronicle**

**RE: Revised Partial Bond Release for Ruby Valley Garnet**

Dear Editor:

Please publish the following legal notice in the next issue (preferably Sunday issue) of your newspaper:

**LEGAL NOTICE**

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has completed a revised partial bond release request for Ruby Valley Garnet LLC. Ruby Valley Garnet processes old tailings for recovery of garnets. The mill and existing mine sites are near Alder, about nine miles east of Virginia City, in sections 4, 9 and 10, Township 6 South, Range 4 West, in Madison County. The Red Wash site is about three miles southeast of the mill in Sections 22, 23, 24 and 25, Township 6 South, Range 4 West and Section 30, Township 6 South, Range 3 West. The Alder plant site area is 505.6 acres and the Red Wash site is 158 acres, for a total permit area of 663.6 acres.

The review updated bonding requirements pursuant to Section 82-4-338(3) and (4), MCA, of the Montana Metal Mine Reclamation Act (MMRA). Ruby Valley Garnet is currently permitted under Operating Permit 00157 from DEQ and is entirely on private lands.

Historically, the area was dredge mined for gold, resulting in an unreclaimed landscape characterized by dredge tailing piles. The Red Wash site is mostly undisturbed rangeland that has been used for livestock grazing.

Reclamation bonds may not be released or decreased until the public has been provided an opportunity for a hearing and a hearing has been held if requested. The current reclamation bond is \$132,185, with an additional bond in the amount of \$10,000 held under a Small Miner Exclusion Statement (SMES) for the Red Wash site that can be released with incorporation of

that area into the operating permit. The Department believes that \$122,948 represents the costs of implementing the currently approved reclamation plan per the MMRA.

A copy of the bond calculations that form the basis for the partial bond release can be obtained by contacting the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Management Bureau, P. O. Box 200901, 1520 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620-0901, or by calling Herb Rolfes at (406) 444-3841 or e-mail at [hrolfes@mt.gov](mailto:hrolfes@mt.gov). Please submit comments or questions on the proposed bond release by May 4, 2007.

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