



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko Field Office

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<http://www.nv.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:

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April 12, 2002

Dear Reader:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for Newmont Mining Corporation's South Operations Area Project Amendment. The FEIS serves to analyze the effect of continuing mining and dewatering operations for ten years beyond the current permit. The South Operations Area Project consists of the Gold Quarry, Mac, and Tusc open pit gold mine, mill, and dewatering facilities, and is located approximately six miles northwest of Carlin, Nevada.

This FEIS addresses those concerns raised during the public comment period on the DEIS through October 31, 2000. This document provides the information presented in the DEIS as well as changes to the text which have been highlighted in bold type to aid in the reader's review. A second volume (Appendix E) contains all of the comment letters received on the DEIS and the BLM's responses to these comments. The BLM, in conjunction with all interested parties, has proposed mitigation measures to address incremental impacts which are over and above what was addressed in the 1993 South Operations Area Project EIS.

Following a 30 day public review period, a Record of Decision (ROD) will be published. The decision reached in the ROD is subject to appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals. The 30-day appeal period starts with the publication of the ROD, and implementation of the Plan of Operations will not begin until the ROD has been issued.

Your interest in the management of public lands is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Roger Congdon, EIS Coordinator, at the Bureau of Land Management, Elko Field Office, 3900 Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801.

Sincerely,

Helen Hankins
Field Manager