
CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The Elko Field Office of the United States Department of the Interior (USDI) Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a Plan of Operations from the Newmont Gold Company and Barrick HD Venture in April 1997 proposing development and operation of an underground mine and associated surface support facilities in the Leeville Project area. Since 1997, Newmont has acquired Barrick's interest in the Project and Newmont Gold Company has become Newmont Mining Corporation (Newmont). Newmont has assumed all responsibilities associated with the Plan of Operations as submitted in April 1997 (Newmont 1997a). The Leeville Project area is located on public and private land in Eureka County, Nevada, approximately 20 miles northwest of Carlin, Nevada (**Figure 1-1**).

Proposed facilities in the Leeville Project area are located on public land administered by BLM; consequently, review and approval of Newmont's Plan of Operation is required by BLM pursuant to Title 43, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 3809 (43 CFR 3809) Surface Management Regulations. Due to the potential for the proposed Project to result in significant environmental impacts, BLM determined that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be necessary, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA).

BLM is serving as lead agency in preparing this EIS for the proposed Project. This document follows regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) for implementing procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508) and BLM's NEPA Handbook (H-1790-1).

This EIS describes components of, reasonable alternatives to, and environmental consequences of proposed mining and waste rock disposal operations in the Leeville Project area. Chapter 1 describes purpose and need for action, the role of BLM, and public participation in the EIS process. Chapter 2 provides a

historical perspective of gold mining in the Leeville Project and Carlin Trend areas, a description of existing mining and mineral exploration operations and the Proposed Action, and Alternatives to the Proposed Action. Chapter 3 describes the existing environment in the Leeville Project area. Chapter 4 details potential direct, indirect, and cumulative effects associated with the Proposed Action and Alternatives, and possible mitigation measures that may be selected to reduce or minimize impacts. Chapter 5 identifies the consultation and coordination with state and federal agencies that occurred during preparation of this EIS and a list of preparers. Chapter 6 contains a list of references cited in developing the EIS.

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

The purpose of Newmont's proposal is to use the existing mining work force to conduct underground mining on unpatented mining claims and fee land within the Leeville Project area to produce gold from ore reserves contained in multiple ore deposits. Gold is an established commodity with international markets and demand. Uses include jewelry, investments, standard for monetary systems, electronics, and other industrial applications.

AUTHORIZING ACTIONS

A proposal submitted to BLM may be approved only after an environmental analysis is completed as required by NEPA. BLM decision options include approving Newmont's Plan of Operations as submitted, approving alternatives to the Plan of Operations to mitigate environmental impacts, approving the Plan of Operations with stipulations to mitigate environmental impacts, or denying the Plan of Operations. If BLM denies the Plan of Operations, the applicant can modify and

resubmit the Plan of Operations to address issues or concerns identified by BLM on the original Plan of Operations.

A substantial portion of Newmont's Leeville Project facilities would be located on public land administered by BLM; such operations must comply with BLM regulations for mining on public land (43 CFR 3809, Surface Management Regulations), the Mining and Mineral Policy Act of 1970, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. These laws recognize the statutory right of mining claim holders to develop federal mineral resources under the General Mining Law of 1872. These laws, however, in combination with other BLM policies (i.e., the Resource Management Plan) also require BLM to analyze proposed mining operations to ensure: 1) adequate provisions are included to prevent undue or unnecessary degradation of public land, 2) measures are included to provide reasonable reclamation of disturbed areas, and 3) proposed operations would comply with other applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations.

In addition to BLM, other federal, state, and local agencies have jurisdiction over certain aspects of the Proposed Action. **Table 1-1** provides a comprehensive listing of agencies and their respective permit/authorizing responsibilities. The primary permits to be obtained by Newmont include a reclamation permit, groundwater appropriation permits, water pollution control permit, air quality operating permit, and a stormwater discharge permit.

In July 2001, the Nevada Regulatory Office of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) ruled that creeks in the Boulder Creek drainage, Eureka County, Nevada, were "...not jurisdictional waters of the United States..." and 404 permitting would not be necessary (USACOE 199725359).

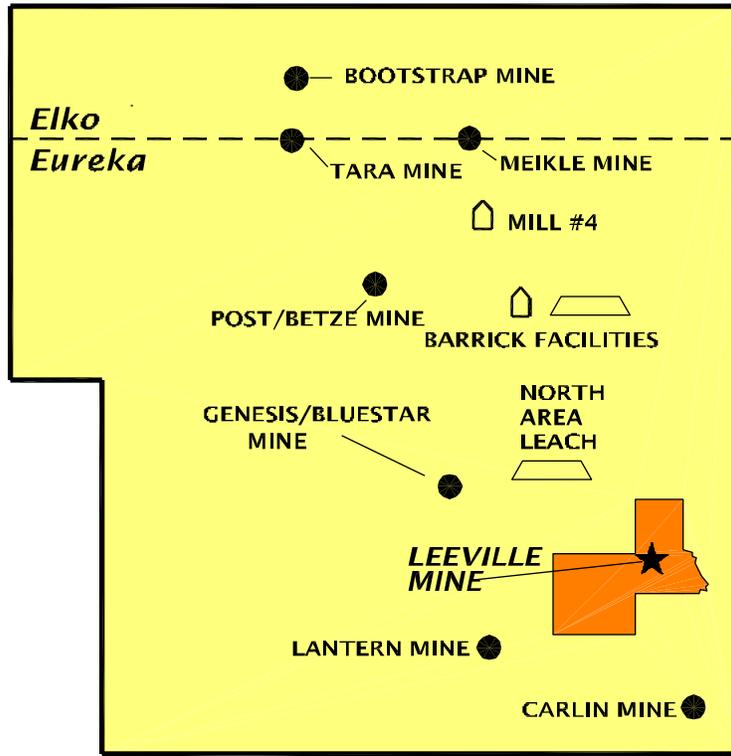
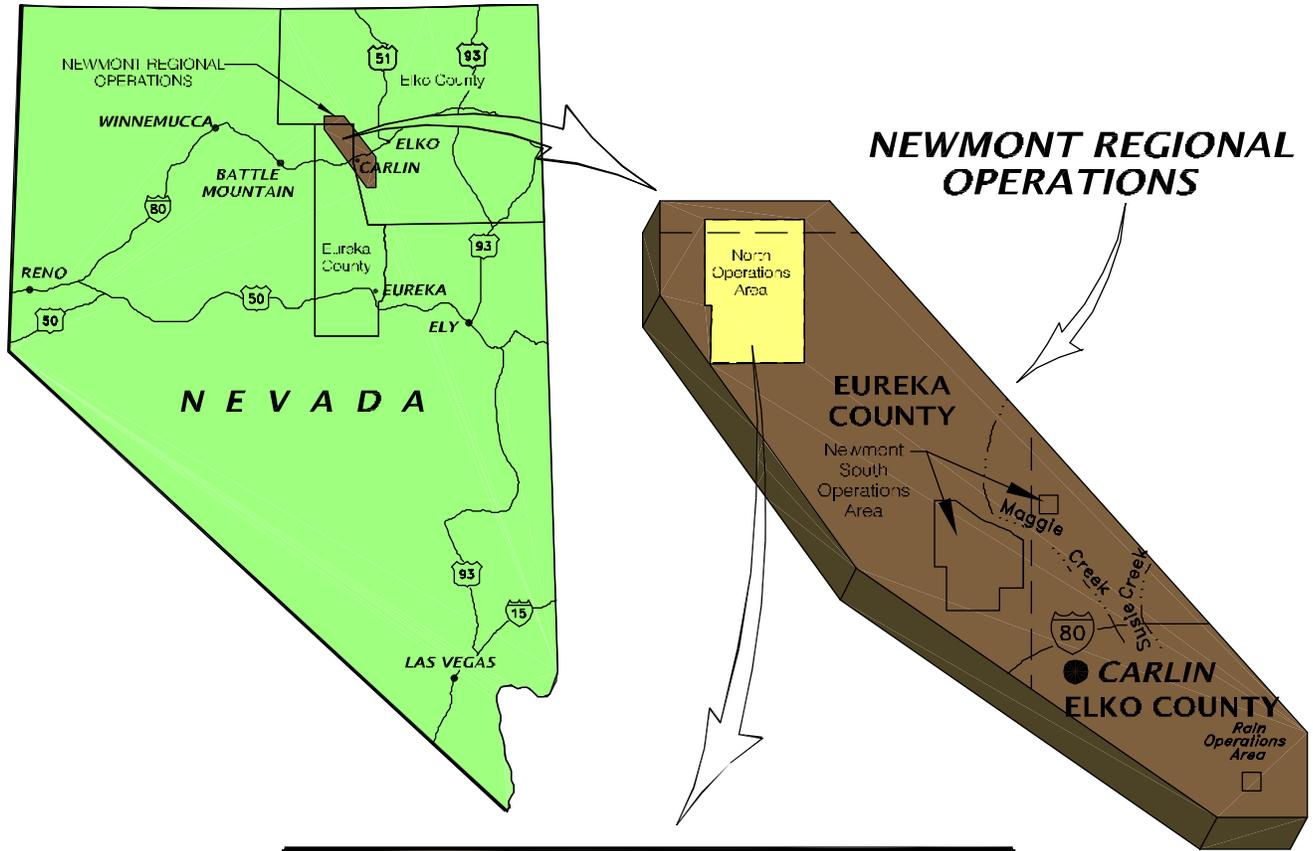
Groundwater pumped from the mine dewatering system for the Leeville Project would be discharged to the alluvial aquifer system in the

Boulder Valley, used for irrigation in the Boulder Valley or, as a last resort, would be discharged under Barrick Goldstrike Mines, Inc. (Barrick) current water discharge permit (NEV 0022675). Discharges made under Barrick's discharge permit would require authorization from the Nevada State Engineer. Barrick would notify the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) in accordance with stipulations of the discharge permit.

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) bonding requirements for mine reclamation in Nevada are outlined in Nevada Administrative Code (NAC)/Nevada Revised Statute (NRS) 519A Regulations. For BLM, Surface Management Regulations (43 CFR 3809) establishes bonding policy relating to mining and mineral development. In 1990, BLM and NDEP entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to coordinate evaluation and approval of reclamation plans, and to determine bond amounts for mining and exploration operations. Estimated costs of reclamation are determined by mining companies using industry guidelines and standards for equipment, material, and Davis-Bacon Wage Rates for labor. These rates are approved by BLM and NDEP in determining the bond amount.

RELATIONSHIP TO BLM AND NON-BLM POLICIES, PLANS, AND PROGRAMS

The Leeville Project Plan of Operations has been reviewed for compliance with BLM policies, plans, and programs. The proposal is in conformance with the minerals decisions in the Record of Decision, Elko Resource Area, Resource Management Plan, approved in March 1987. Through the EIS process, the State of Nevada and Eureka County are evaluating the proposed Leeville Project for conformance with existing land use restrictions and Nevada State regulations.



General Location Map
Leeville Project
FIGURE 1-1

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PUBLIC SCOPING

To allow an early and open process for determining the scope of issues and concerns related to the Proposed Action (40 CFR 1510.7), a public scoping period was provided by BLM. A Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published in the Federal Register on August 1, 1997 (NV-010-1990-09). Publication of this notice in the Federal Register initiated a 30-day public scoping period for the Proposed Action that provided for acceptance of comments through September 2, 1997.

BLM mailed a scoping package that included a project summary and maps to individuals and organizations listed on the Elko Field Office mailing list. In addition, the scoping package was distributed at public scoping meetings. The Plan of Operations was provided on request.

Concurrent with these actions, BLM issued a news release to 19 radio stations and news organizations with coverage in the surrounding geographical regions in Nevada, Idaho, California, and Utah.

A public scoping meeting was held by BLM in Elko on August 20, 1997. Separate meetings were held for the Elko and Eureka County Commissioners. Twenty members of the public attending the Elko Scoping meeting did not comment on the Project. Written responses were received from 12 agencies and groups during the public scoping period.

Public and agency comments concerning the Proposed Action are shown in **Table 1-2**. This table also provides references to the sections of this EIS which respond to each issue raised in the comments.

Authorizing Action	Regulatory Agency
Plan of Operations/Rights of Way	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
National Environmental Policy Act	BLM
National Historic Preservation Act	BLM; Nevada Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology
Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Act	BLM
American Indian Religious Freedom Act	BLM
Clean Water Act (Section 404)	United States Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE)
High Explosive License/Permit	United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms
Hydrocarbon Permit	Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
Water Appropriation Permits	Nevada State Engineer
Stormwater Permit	NDEP, Bureau of Water Pollution Control
Air Quality Permit	NDEP, Bureau of Air Quality
Water Pollution Control Permit	NDEP, Bureau of Mining Regulation & Reclamation
Mine Reclamation Permit (and Bonding)	BLM; NDEP, Bureau of Mining Regulation & Reclamation
Solid Waste Disposal Permit	NDEP, Bureau of Waste Management
Potable Water	Nevada Division of Health (NDH), Department of Human Resources
Sewer System Approvals	NDH, NDEP, Bureau of Water Pollution Control
Safety Plan	Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA)
Endangered Species Act of 1973	United States Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Source	
David J. Farrel, Chief Office of Federal Activities U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IX, San Francisco, CA August 1997	
Describe all reasonable alternatives to the Proposed Action.	Chapter 2 – Alternatives
Describe implementation of mitigation measures	Chapter 2 – Mitigation Measures Chapter 4 – All Resources
Describe potential impacts on groundwater and surface water, estimated rates of <u>water produced/consumed by Proposed Action and other related projects.</u>	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Potential effects on groundwater and surface water, springs, seeps, water supply wells, wetlands, vegetation, and wildlife.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality Chapter 4 – Vegetation, Wildlife, Soils
Include baseline data from past/current groundwater and surface water quality monitoring and measurement of potentiometric surface at various locations over time in the area of affected environment.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe potential cumulative effects to biologic resources	Chapter 4 – Vegetation; Terrestrial Wildlife; Wetlands/ Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, & Sensitive Species
Describe potential cumulative effects of mass loading and increased flows on the Humboldt River, Humboldt Sink, and Rye Patch Reservoir	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe cumulative effects of discharges of trace elements such as selenium, arsenic and boron on the Humboldt River and wetlands within the closed hydrographic basin.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe affects on Lahonton cutthroat trout habitat in recharge areas affected by groundwater withdrawals.	Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Describe proposed project compliance with state and federal water quality standards.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe potential effects of thermal changes, increased suspended solids, <u>toxicity, salinity, and pH on surface water quality.</u>	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Discuss whether a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) <u>permit would be required for discharge to surface water.</u>	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
<u>Discuss project compliance with applicable stormwater permitting requirements.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe existing environment in project locale including drainage patterns, hydrologic and topographic maps.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
<u>Discuss effects of the project on erosion potential and sedimentation.</u>	Chapter 4 – Soils
<u>Identify and describe areas within 50 and 100 year floodplains.</u>	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
Discuss potential for flash floods to transport sediment from disturbed areas to <u>stream channels.</u>	Chapter 3 – Soils
<u>Describe existing and proposed processing facilities associated with the project.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Discuss potential for surface water contamination infiltrating through tailing disposal facilities, various stockpiles, and waste rock dumps.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe mitigation measures to prevent surface water contamination including construction of run-on/run-off channels, impermeable covers, collection or <u>sedimentation ponds, and any necessary treatment or disposal.</u>	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality Chapter 4 – Soils
Discuss flow velocities of all discharges to surface water and effect on <u>scouring and sedimentation.</u>	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality Chapter 4 – Soils
Describe procedures to address accidental releases of hazardous materials, <u>including overflow from ponds.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action. Note: There are no solution ponds proposed for this project at this site.
Describe potential impacts from failure of solution containment systems and tailing ponds, methods for discovering such failures, and degree to which impacts are <u>reversible.</u>	Comment noted: There are no solution ponds proposed for this project at this site.

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Describe acid generation/neutralization potential for waste rock, stockpiles, tailing, and backfill at the site, and appropriate mitigation measures.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action Chapter 3 – Geology & Minerals Chapter 4 – Geology & Minerals
Describe applicable tests and results conducted on ore and waste rock, including sample locations.	Chapter 3 – Geology & Minerals Chapter 4 – Geology & Minerals
Describe water quality at older, nearby mining sites that could be used to predict future acid generation at proposed project.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
<u>Describe waste rock characterization and disposal plan</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe proposed facility design and operation, and maintenance and monitoring activities.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe and provide all points of compliance and monitoring wells on the project site, including screening intervals, parameters to be monitored, and monitoring frequencies.	Chapter 3 – Air Quality Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
<u>Discuss chemical characterization of water in open ponds located at the site.</u>	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe potential for and effects of movement of contaminated surface water to subsurface.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe the chemistry of cyanide in water and soil, and the cyanide budget resulting from leach processing at similar mines.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Estimate quantities of cyanide likely to be “lost” and its fate.	Comment noted: There are no solution ponds proposed for this project at this site.
Discuss applicability of Section 404 Permit under the Clean Water Act	Unites States Army Corps of Engineers has determined that a Section 404 Permit is not required.
Describe potential cumulative impacts to resources, considering the proposed project in the context of past, current, and reasonably foreseeable future mining and other activities in the project vicinity.	Chapter 4 – All Resources
Discuss cumulative impacts to water and air quality, hydrology, soils, vegetation, wildlife, and biodiversity.	Chapter 4 – Respective Resources
Discuss potential impacts, including cumulative impacts, to threatened, endangered, candidate, and sensitive plant and wildlife species.	Chapter 4 – Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, and Sensitive Species
Discuss mitigation measures to prevent exposure of migratory waterfowl and other wildlife to toxic water used in processing ore.	Comment noted: There are no solution ponds proposed for this project at this site.
Netting and scare tactics are not completely reliable prevention measures and serious consideration should be given to covering any pregnant solution ponds on the project site.	Comment noted. There are no pregnant solution ponds proposed for this project at this site.
Identify and discuss wetland and riparian habitats and other unique or important habitat areas affected by the project.	Chapter 3 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Discuss avoidance, minimization, and mitigation of losses or modification of habitat and plant and animal composition.	Chapter 4 – Respective Resources
Describe mitigation plan for replacement of habitat adversely affected by the project.	Chapter4 – Mitigation and Monitoring Measures for All Resources
Discuss National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increments applicable to air quality in the project area.	Chapter 3 – Air Quality
Discuss impacts to NAAQS and PSD increments from estimated emissions from all aspects of mine excavation, construction, operation, and support activities such as vehicle traffic.	Chapter 4 – Air Quality
Discuss mitigation measures necessary to comply with NAAQS and PSD.	Chapter 4 – Air Quality
Identify any Class I PSD areas within 100 kilometers of the proposed project.	There are no Class I PSD areas within 100 kilometers of the proposed project.
Discuss applicability and requirements of the New Source Performance Standards for Metallic Mineral Processing Plants.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
<u>Describe applicability and compliance with State Implementation Plan (SIP).</u>	Chapter 3 – Air Quality
Describe air quality monitoring plan to assure compliance with applicable air quality standards.	Chapter 3 – Air Quality
Describe applicability and compliance with Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Describe procedures to decommission mine operations, and neutralize or cap <u>waste rock, tailing, and leach heaps.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Identify areas targeted for reclamation and the degree of treatment and any <u>irrigation requirements proposed.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
<u>Describe reclamation schedule and duration.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe standards for determining and means of assuring successful reclamation.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe means of assuring any maintenance required for reclaimed areas would continue after operations cease or are suspended.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
EPA recommends BLM require revegetation of disturbed areas be accomplished with only native species indigenous to the area and that revegetation success be <u>monitored and enforced for at least five years following revegetation efforts.</u>	Comment noted.
Discuss provisions for post-operation surveillance to ensure neutralization and/or stabilization of mining waste has been effective.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe mitigation actions that would be taken should destabilization or <u>contamination be detected and identify responsible party.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Specify bonding requirements to ensure reclamation should the mining company fail to carry out all required reclamation activities and identify responsible party for <u>post-closure cleanup actions.</u>	Chapter 1 – Authorizing Actions
Describe measures taken by BLM to fully analyze environmental effects of the proposed federal action on minority communities and low-income populations, and present opportunities for affected communities to provide input in the NEPA process.	Chapter 3 – Environmental Justice
The EIS should state whether the analysis meets requirements of BLM's environmental justice strategy.	Chapter 3 – Environmental Justice
Describe efforts by BLM to enter into government to government consultations with <u>potentially affected Tribes</u>	Chapter 3 – Environmental Justice
<u>Discuss impacts to livestock grazing in the project vicinity</u>	Chapter 4 – Grazing Management
Discuss whether reduction in forage would necessitate a reduction in livestock <u>grazing in the area for the duration of the project to prevent overgrazing.</u>	Chapter 4 – Grazing Management
Identify potential impacts to other special uses that would be displaced by the <u>Proposed Action.</u>	Chapter 4 – Respective Resources
Describe Toxic Release Inventory Reporting requirements of Section 313 of the <u>Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act.</u>	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Source	
Jeanen C. Hafen Northern Nevada Project Director Nature Conservancy of Nevada Reno, NV August 1997	
Describe how this project and others in the area would impact surface water in the <u>area.</u>	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe impacts of dewatering water to the Humboldt River.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe the impact of this project to restoration of the Argenta Marsh	Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones & Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
Describe cumulative impacts of dewatering and displacement of water.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Source	
David P. Overvold Acting Area Manager USDI Bureau of Reclamation Carson City, NV August 1997	
Describe amount and quality of drainage water draining to Humboldt River.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe impacts to the Battle Mountain Pasture	Chapter 4 – Grazing Management
Source	
James Morefield Nevada Natural Heritage Program Carson City, NV August 1997	
Describe impacts to riparian corridors, and all known and undocumented populations of threatened, endangered, candidate, and sensitive species.	Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Chapter 4 – Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, & Sensitive Species
Encourage use of native species in reclamation	Comment noted.
Source	
Michael J. Anderson, P.E. Nevada Department of Water Resources Carson City, NV August 1997	
Will existing tailing facilities have adequate capacity to handle additional slimes?	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Do operators have sufficient water rights to pump the anticipated 78 cfs initially and 44.6 cfs over the life-of-mine and continue operation of other pits/deeprock projects currently under development?	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
What will be resident capacity of cooling facilities holding ponds?	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
How much water will be lost to evaporation?	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
How much water is anticipated to be used beneficially for irrigation, processing and general mine use?	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Source	
Bill Durbin, Geologist Nevada Department of Business and Industry Division of Minerals Carson City, NV August 1997	
Describe methods and technology employed for closure and securing mine openings on completion of mining.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Source	
David M. Buhlig Senior Land Use Specialist Sierra Pacific Power Company Reno, NV August 1997	
Production and ventilation facilities are proposed for construction beneath a permitted 120 kV powerline (BLM #N-47775), the 148 Line – Maggie Creek to Boulder Basin Sub. Relocation of powerline will be required. Cost of relocation to be borne by applicant (Newmont)	Comment noted.

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Source	
Bennie B. Hodges Secretary/Manager Pershing County Water Conservation District of Nevada Lovelock, NV September 1997	
Describe increased amount of mine dewatering water discharged to Humboldt River that could causing flooding of 5,000 acres in south portion of District.	Chapter 3 – Water Quantity & Quality
With Humboldt Sink full and Rye Patch Reservoir at 91% capacity increased flows from mine dewatering will cause flooding and blocking drains from Nile Valley in Lovelock.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Source	
Chester C. Buchanan, Acting State Supervisor USDI, Fish & Wildlife Service Reno, NV August 1997	
Evaluate impacts to threatened, endangered, candidate, and sensitive species.	Chapter 4 – Threatened, Endangered, Candidate, & Sensitive Species
Cumulative impact analyses should evaluate and quantify, where possible, all federal and non-federal past, present, and future actions which may affect the same resources potentially impacted by the proposed action.	Chapter 4 – All Resources
Describe cumulative impacts of surface disturbance in Carlin Trend, and the Humboldt River, Humboldt Sink, and all tributaries influenced by dewatering and associated activities in the Carlin Trend.	Chapter 4 – Cumulative Impacts Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe positive and negative impacts , either direct, indirect, or cumulative, to terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and habitats for each alternative.	Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Chapter 4 – Terrestrial Wildlife
Recommend all land clearing activities be conducted outside of the avian breeding season.	Comment noted.
Wetland and riparian communities should be identified and whether a Section 404 permit will be required.	Chapter 3 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources United States Army Corps of Engineers has determined a Section 404 permit is not required.
Describe impacts to water quality for each alternative including surface and groundwater, increased erosion and sediment loads to streams, and groundwater supplies and potential for depletion which may affect wildlife resources and wetlands.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality Chapter 4 – Terrestrial Wildlife Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Chapter 4 – Vegetation
Describe techniques and assumptions used to model the cone of depression in dewatered areas including a map.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Describe the area likely to be affected directly and indirectly by groundwater recharge following mine closure including a map.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Discuss time required to recharge underground aquifers and achieve equilibrium throughout the system.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality
Impacts to soil quality for each alternative should be addressed.	Chapter 4 – Soil
Describe impacts to air quality from particulate and dust emissions from mining, ore processing, and fugitive dust from loss of vegetative cover.	Chapter 4 – Air Quality
Potential impacts of hazardous materials used or produced at the site to fish and wildlife should be discussed.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action Chapter 4 – Terrestrial Wildlife
Identify transportation routes for hazardous materials and any threatened, endangered, candidate, or sensitive species which may occur along these routes.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Location and qualification of personnel responding to accidents involving hazardous materials.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe impacts of noise from mining operation on wildlife	Chapter 4 – Noise

TABLE 1-2 Scoping Summary Leeville Project	
Issue	Response
Describe measures to avoid, reduce, or compensate for direct and indirect habitat losses to fish and wildlife resulting from this project.	Chapter 4 – Terrestrial Wildlife Chapter 4 – Wetlands/Riparian Zones; Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
The EIS should discuss mitigation/compensation measures in detail, including reclamation plans for the site.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Describe monitoring levels and parameters that would be implemented for life-of-mine and for whatever timeframe indirect impacts are likely to occur.	Chapter 4 – Respective Resources
A mechanism to ensure implementation of additional mitigation/compensation measures should be provided in the event monitoring shows higher levels of adverse impacts than originally anticipated.	Comment noted.
Monitoring should be provided to ensure success of any mitigation developed for the project.	Comment noted.
Source	
Thomas J. Fronapfel, P.E. Nevada Department of Transportation Carson City, NV September 1997	
Perform traffic study to determine additional impact project would have and if State Route 766 needs to be widened as a result.	Chapter 2 – Proposed Action
Source	
Patrick Reardon Butte, MT August 1997	
Mining is a benefit to the nation's economy and to local environment as well.	Comment noted.
Source	
Tom Meyers, Ph.D Hydrologic Consultant Reno, NV September 1997	
Describe overall cumulative impacts of dewatering to Humboldt River.	Chapter 4 – Water Quantity & Quality