



United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



Elko Field Office
Elko, Nevada

July 2002

FINAL Environmental Impact Statement



Leeville Project

MISSION STATEMENT

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for the stewardship of our public lands. It is committed to manage, protect, and improve these lands in a manner to serve the needs of the American people for all times. Management is based upon the principles of multiple use and sustained yield of our nation's resources within a framework of environmental responsibility and scientific technology. These resources include recreation, rangelands, timber, minerals, watershed, fish and wildlife, wilderness, air and scenic, scientific and cultural values.

BLM/EK/PL-02/011+1793



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Elko Field Office
3900 East Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801-4611
<http://www.nv.blm.gov>

In Reply Refer To:
1793.7/3809
N16-97-004P

July 17, 2002

Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Federal Activities, EIS Filing Section
Mail Code 2252-A, Room 7241
Ariel Rios Building (South Oval Lobby)
1200 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Sir or Madam:

In compliance with Section 102 (2) (C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, and in accordance with 40 CFR 1506.9, the Bureau of Land Management has prepared and is enclosing five (5) copies of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) on Newmont Gold Company's Leeville Project. In addition, we have sent a copy of the FEIS to your regional office in San Francisco, California.

The EIS Control Number provided by the Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance for this document is **FES 02-20**. We request that this FEIS be listed in the EPA Federal Register notice on **Friday, July 26, 2002**. The public review period for this FEIS is 30 days and will end on August 26, 2002.

This FEIS has been transmitted to all appropriate agencies, special interest groups, and the general public. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Deb McFarlane, Leeville EIS Project Lead, at (775) 753-0200.

Sincerely yours,

HELEN HANKINS
Field Manager

cc: Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Enclosure: FEIS (1 book, 5 copies)

**FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION'S LEEVILLE PROJECT**

LEAD AGENCY: U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Elko Field Office
Elko, Nevada

PROJECT LOCATION: Elko and Eureka counties, Nevada

**COMMENTS ON THIS FINAL
EIS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:** Deb McFarlane
Leeville Project EIS Project Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Elko Field Office
3900 East Idaho Street
Elko, NV 89801

**DATE FINAL EIS FILED WITH
ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY:** June 14, 2002

**DATE BY WHICH COMMENTS
SHOULD BE POSTMARKED TO BLM:** July 15, 2002

ABSTRACT

This Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) provides response to comments received by BLM during the public comment period on the Draft EIS (DEIS) for the Leeville Project. The DEIS analyzed potential impacts that could result from development of an underground gold mine located in the Carlin Trend, approximately 20 miles northwest of Carlin, Nevada. The DEIS also analyzed potential impacts associated with alternatives that would reduce or eliminate potential impacts of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action includes construction of five shafts to access three main ore bodies at depths of approximately 2,500 feet below ground surface. Newmont would also construct ancillary mine facilities to support underground operations including shaft hoists, waste rock disposal facility, refractory ore stockpile, facilities to support backfilling operations, installation and operation of mine dewatering well system, water treatment plant, water pipeline system to transport dewatering water to existing irrigation and infiltration systems in the Boulder Valley, and reclamation of surface disturbances. The Leeville Project would result in surface disturbance totaling 486 acres of land (33 acres of private land and 453 acres of public land). The Leeville Project would have an approximate 18-year mine life and would produce about 18 million tons of ore and waste rock. In addition to the Proposed Action, three alternatives were analyzed in the DEIS: A) eliminate canal portion of the water discharge pipeline system; B) backfill shafts at closure; and C) relocate waste rock disposal facility and refractory ore stockpile. The Agency Preferred Alternative incorporates the Proposed Action and Alternatives A, B, and C.

Responsible Official for FEIS:



**Helen Hankins
Manager, Elko Field Office**

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
NEWMONT MINING CORPORATION
LEEVILLE PROJECT**

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