



October 5, 2021

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Oct 05 2021

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Cortney Flather
Lassen County
Planning and Building Services
707 Nevada Street, Suite 5
Susanville, CA 96130

Copy sent via email: CFlather@co.lassen.ca.us

SUBJECT: NOTICE OF PREAPPLICATION CONSULTATION
HAYDEN HILL MINE (CA MINE ID# 91-18-0012)

Dear Ms. Flather:

Thank you for including the Department of Conservation's Division of Mine Reclamation (Division) in the environmental review process for the Hayden Hill Mine (Proposed Project) Notice of Preapplication Consultation. The notice indicates that Lassen County (County), as lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), will prepare a draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR) for the Proposed Project.

As described in the notice, the Proposed Project will amend the existing use permit and reclamation plan (RP) for the Hayden Hill Mine (CA Mine ID# 91-18-0012) to allow for a preliminary review of the Proposed Project to leave in place a 69-kV power transmission line and transfer ownership of the power line to Surprise Valley Electrification Corporation. This would require the Permit and RP to be amended to remove the requirement that the power line be removed at the time of mine site reclamation.

The Division's primary focus is on active surface mining operations; however, the Division also addresses issues related to abandoned (pre-1976) legacy mines. Additionally, the Division has review responsibilities associated with lead agency implementation of SMARA. SMARA provides a comprehensive surface mining and reclamation policy to assure that:

- Adverse environmental effects of surface mining operations are prevented or minimized and mined lands are reclaimed to a usable condition which is readily adaptable for alternative land uses
- Production and conservation of minerals are encouraged, while giving consideration to values relating to recreation, watershed, wildlife, range and forage, and aesthetic enjoyment
- Residual hazards to the public health and safety are eliminated

Division staff has reviewed the subject notice of preapplication consultation and offers the following comments at this time:

Ms. Flather

Notice of Preapplication Consultation- Hayden Hills Mine (CA Mine ID# 91-18-0012)

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- Division staff will provide comments on the amendment to the RP for this proposed mining activity once the Division receives the complete RP amendment and any supporting documents, along with the statement from the County that certifies the submission as complete and in accordance with PRC Section 2772.1 (a)(3)(A-C).
- Division staff will provide comments on the financial assurance cost estimate for the Proposed Project in accordance with PRC Section 2773.4(a-d).

The Division requests to be included on the distribution list for this Proposed Project. Additionally, the Division requests that any subsequent project documents (e.g., notice of availability of the draft SEIR through the notice of determination and any supplemental environmental documents), as well as a copy of the certified final SEIR, be sent to the Division at DMR-Submittals@conservation.ca.gov or the mailing address on the bottom of page 1 of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 323-9198.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Carol E. Atkins

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Carol E. Atkins, Manager

Environmental Services Unit

ec: State Clearinghouse, state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

Department of Conservation, Office of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs,
OLRA@conservation.ca.gov