Mine-impacted Water Regulations

Mining Oversight and Accountability Commission November 17, 2015

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation



Purpose of Proposed Regulations

- Revise bonding requirements to assure adequate funding available to address actual discharges of mine-impacted water to protect water quality.
- Maintain consistency on private lands with BLM implementation of bonding requirements on federal lands in Nevada.
- Allow cash deposits as an acceptable form of surety.



Summary of Regulations

- Definition of Mine Impacted Waters (MIW)
- Require stabilization, management, control, or treatment of MIW in the reclamation plan approved by NDEP
- Require mitigation of MIW
- Require bonding for MIW mitigation
- Allow cash deposit as an acceptable form of surety

Outreach and Public Input on Proposed Regulations

- NDEP held workshops on August 4 in Elko and August 12 in Carson City.
- Concerns expressed:
 - How bonding would apply to potential or modeled not actual discharges of mine impacted water.
 - Application of bonding to pre-regulation (before 1989) sources.
- NDEP has addressed these concerns through discussion or in the regulation.



Thank you

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