

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca Field Office
5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445-2921
<http://www.nv.blm.gov/winnemucca>
(775) 623-1500 or wfoweb@nv.blm.gov



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JAN 16 2007

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

JAN 12 2007

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca Field Office (WFO) is seeking public input regarding a Plan of Operations received from Nevada Cement Company to mine limestone near Rye Patch Reservoir. Nevada Cement's mine would be located at the west base of the Humboldt Range about 25 miles northeast of Lovelock in Pershing County. The mining operation is proposed within T. 30 N., R. 33 E., and involves 145.2 acres of public land and 41.5 acres of private land. A map submitted by Nevada Cement Company in its Plan of Operations is enclosed for your reference.

The proposed mining operation would remove approximately 1 to 1 ½ million tons of cement grade limestone each year for 50 years from an open pit east of the Humboldt River Ranch Association and transport it to the west side of I-80.

The proposed operation infrastructure includes:

- Limestone quarry and crushing facility – T. 30 N., R. 33 E., section 14
- Electricity distribution from existing substation in T. 30 N., R. 33 E., section 9
- Water well - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., section 10
- Covered conveyor transport - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., sections 4, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15
- Truck haul route - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., sections 10, 14, 15, 16
- Shipping facility - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., section 8
- Rail transport area - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., section 8
- Haul road from Standard Mine to Project Echo - T. 30 N., R. 33 E., sections 1, 2, 10, 11

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the BLM Winnemucca Field Office will be preparing a NEPA document for the proposed project. The NEPA document will disclose the environmental impacts expected to occur should the project be implemented. The BLM is seeking your input regarding issues, concerns or applicable knowledge that will assist in the preparation of this document.

The BLM encourages public participation in the process. To facilitate this, public open house scoping meetings will be held on Tuesday, January 16, at the Airport Plaza Hotel, 1981 Terminal Way, in Reno and on Wednesday, January 17, at Sturgeons Ramada Inn, 1420 Cornell Avenue in Lovelock. Both meetings will begin at 4:00 p.m. and end at 7:00 p.m. For further information on the project, contact Ken Loda at (775) 623-1500.

Written public comments should be submitted no later than Friday, February 16, 2007. Comments may be mailed to the Winnemucca Field Office, Attn: Ken Loda, 5100 E Winnemucca Blvd, Winnemucca NV 89445-2921; or emailed to wfoweb@nv.blm.gov with "Project Echo" in the subject line.

Commenters wishing to have their names or addresses withheld from public view or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act must request this prominently at the beginning of their comments. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Anonymity is not allowed for submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses.

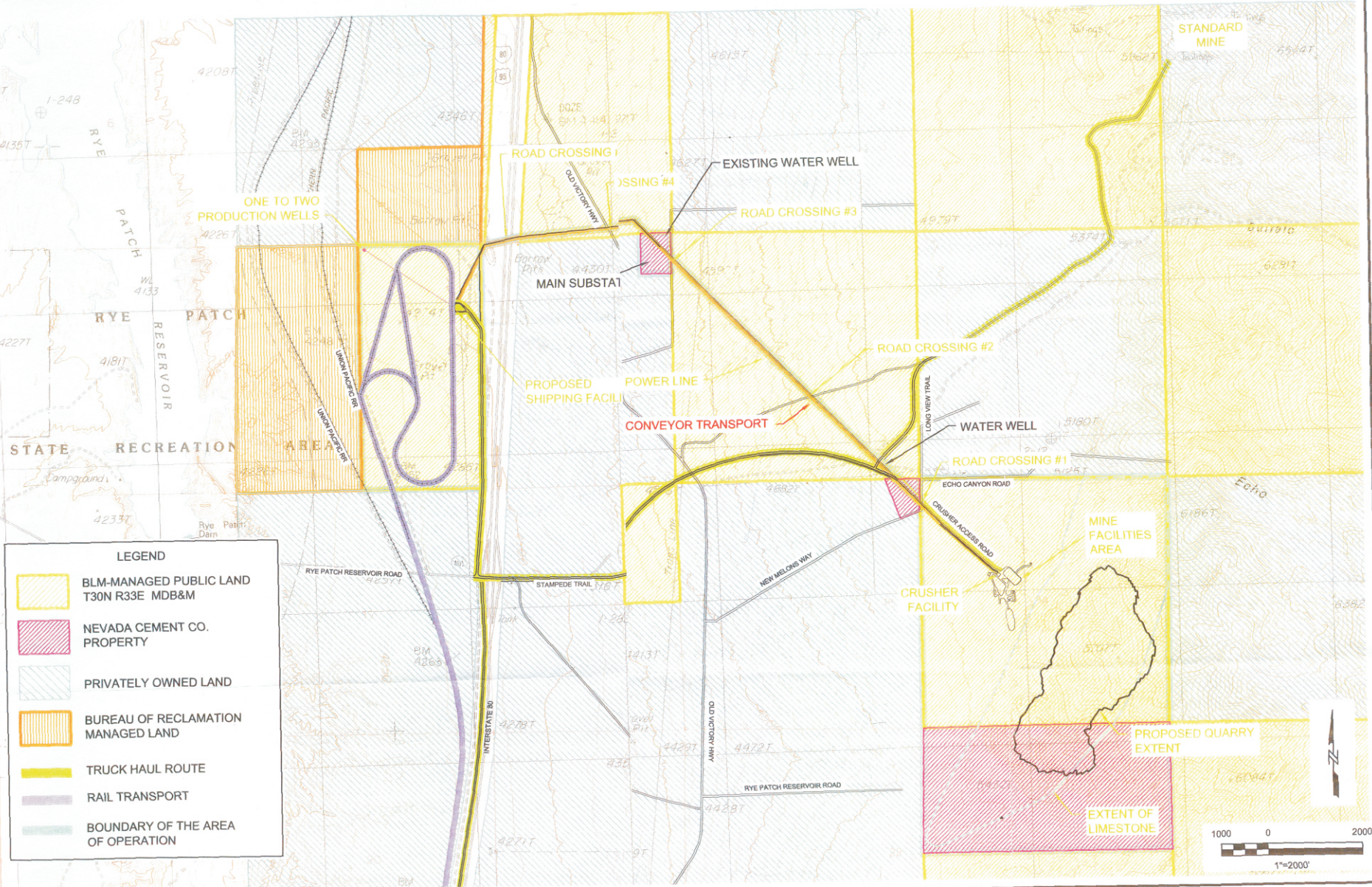
Should you have further questions, please contact Ken Loda, at the above address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dave Hays", written in a cursive style.

Dave Hays
Assistant Field Manager
Nonrenewable Resources

Enclosure



Plan of Operations

Nevada Cement Company's Project Echo, Pershing County, NV

DATE: 12/08/06

DRWN: E.S.S./DEN

SHIPPING PLAN OF OPERATIONS

FIGURE 1-2