



# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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CHURCHILL COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS

In Reply Refer To:

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August 20, 2021

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Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Winnemucca District, Humboldt River Field Office is seeking public input on a Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA) for a Plan of Operations submitted by Coeur Rochester Inc. (CRI).

The Lincoln Hill project is located approximately 26 miles northeast of Lovelock, Nevada, where CRI proposes to conduct mineral exploration and baseline data collection to assess mineral development potential. The Plan boundary encompasses 8,457 acres (2,201.2 private acres and 6,255.8 acres of BLM-administered lands) in Pershing County. Activities proposed in the Plan of Operations (Plan) would be conducted in phases. Under Phase I, CRI proposes to create approximately 7.36 acres of surface disturbance in addition to the maximum 5.0 acres of previously authorized disturbance, for approximately 12.36 acres total. Up to 237.64 acres of surface disturbance would be created under subsequent phases for a total of 250 acres within the Plan boundary.

The PEA analyzes the impacts expected from drill sites, groundwater monitoring wells, overland travel routes, and water usage. CRI would conduct year-round exploration drilling activities, as weather permits, with up to four drill rigs simultaneously. Approximately 26 drill holes would be drilled as part of Phase I and up to 450 additional drill holes would be drilled under subsequent phases. Drilling will be performed to define the extent of the mineralization and to collect samples for geochemical analyses. CRI also proposes to install up to eight groundwater monitoring wells under Phase I to assess water levels and water quality in the Project Area. Whenever possible, existing exploration drill sites would be used for monitoring well installation.

The PEA is available at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2013334/615>. The public is invited to submit comments in writing or by e-mail on the Plan and PEA. Comments may be submitted either by mail to Ms. Alana Basso, project lead, at the above address or by e-mail at [wfoweb@blm.gov](mailto:wfoweb@blm.gov) with "Coeur Lincoln Hill EA (Basso)" in the subject line. The comment period will end at 11:59 pm on September 20, 2021.

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CALIFORNIA\*, NEVADA\*, OREGON\*

\* PARTIAL

In addition, a hard copy of the PEA will be provided upon request or is available for review at the Winnemucca District office during regular business hours (7:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday – Friday, except federal holidays). Due to current BLM COVID-19 policy, copies of this information will be available for public review at the Winnemucca district office with an appointment. Should this policy change and the office open fully, hardcopies of this information will be made available for unrestricted viewing in our public room.

Public comments submitted for this project, including names and addresses of commenters will be available for public review at the WDO during regular business hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment -- including personal identifying information -- may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The BLM is fulfilling its obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) through the NEPA scoping and comment process. Since there is the potential of adverse impacts to historic properties, the BLM and State Historic Preservation Office will be developing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Please notify the BLM should you like to review the draft MOA.

For additional information, to set up an appointment to review documents in the BLM office, or any questions regarding the documents above, please contact Alana Basso at (775) 623-1528 or at the above address.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Rehberg  
Field Manager  
Humboldt River Field Office