

Request for Comments/ Notice of Proposed Action

Centennial Geotechnical Exploration Project

USDA Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest
Ely Ranger District
June 23, 2009

Why we are proposing this project

Ely Gold & Mineral, Inc. (EGM) has locatable mining claims in the Mt Hamilton Mine area and would like to exercise their right to explore for precious metals on their claims.

Previous Mining in the Mount Hamilton Area

The Project Area contains disturbance from exploration and mining activities that have occurred since the 1860s. The most significant development in the area occurred in the early 1990s when the Mt. Hamilton Mine started operations and only operated for a couple of years before it went bankrupt. The Forest Service reclaimed the heap leach pad, mill site, waste rock dumps and roads associated with the mine site. In recent years, companies, including Augusta Resources and EGM, have conducted mineral exploration operations in the area including utilization of mine and exploration roads and drilling. EGM has previously proposed exploration drilling and this proposal includes additional drilling for geotechnical purposes.

What Ely Gold & Mineral, Inc. proposes

EGM proposes to drill 3 exploration sites, 23 geotechnical sites, and 2 groundwater monitoring wells, using existing roads, overland travel (9,050 ft) and constructed roads (1,600 ft). The duration of the project is less than one year and with a total disturbance of 3.2 acres.

Project Location

The Centennial Geotechnical Project is located on the northwestern flank of Mt.

Hamilton in the White Pine Range. The Project Area is approximately 45 miles west of Ely, Nevada and 40 miles east of Eureka, Nevada.; T16N, R57E, Sections 7, 8, 16, 17 & 21.

We have identified preliminary issues:

- Will the investigations and drilling impact biological and cultural resources?

How we will figure out what to do

We will use this issue and those we receive from you to reduce impacts to the environment and to analyze the effects of implementing the project.

How you can help us decide what to do

We ask that you think about this proposal and let us know what you think. This thirty-day comment period provides those interested in or affected by this proposal an opportunity to make their concerns known prior to making the decision.

The decision to be made

We will decide to permit the project as proposed, permit it with modifications, or deny it. We plan to cite a categorical exclusion to make this decision. This means that the decision will not be preceded with an Environmental Assessment.

We want to hear from you ...

If you would like more information, contact:
Deanna Stever, Humboldt-Toiyabe N.F., Ely District, Geologist/Minerals Specialist
(775) 289-5120, dstever@fs.fed.us
825 Ave E, Ely, NV 89301

To provide electronic comments, in rtf or doc:
comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiyabe-ely@fs.fed.us

For Official Use Only

Comment #: _____

Date Received: _____

Logged in by: _____

Centennial Geotechnical Exploration Project

Comment Form

We have provided this form for your convenience.

For your information: names and individuals commenting on Forest Service proposals may be released if requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone Number: _____

Here are my concerns, issues, and/or ideas about the Centennial Geotechnical Exploration Project

Please check all that apply...

_____ **I have information about the area that may be helpful in the decision.**

Feel free to contact me at _____.

_____ **Please send me the final decision document.**

_____ **I have no further interest in this proposal and do not want to receive further mailings.**

Centennial Geotechnical Exploration Project Ely Gold and Minerals

