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Public Notice of Hearing
Petition for Reconsideration, Big Springs Appeal NEV0087001

August 01, 2006, 2006

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In accordance with NAC 445b.899, the State Environmental Commission (SEC) will convene the Big Spring Appeal hearing on August 4th, 2006. The hearing will be conducted at the Office of the Attorney General, 2nd floor conference room. The office is located at 100 North Carson Street. The appeal hearing is scheduled to begin at 4:pm. Individuals who elect not to be physically present at the hearing may phone in to the hearing at the following number (775) 684-1279.

About the hearing: This reconsideration hearing will address the Petition for Reconsideration and Rehearing that was filed by Great Basin Mine Watch (GBMW) on July 25, 2006. The petition is posted on the SEC website at this address:

http://www.sec.nv.gov/main/big_springs_appeal05.htm

Additional Background: The initial Big Springs Appeal hearing was held on Thursday, March 29, 2006, at the Office of the Attorney General, The State Environmental Commission - SEC Appeal Panel heard arguments from the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (State), Great Basin Mine Watch-GBMW (the Appellant), and AngloGold Ashanti, a Nevada Corporation (the Intervenor).

Arguments were confined to a notice issued by the State on March 22, 2006 titled "NDEP's Intent To Challenge Great Basin Mine Watch's Standing Pursuant To NRS 233B.127(4). After hearing opening arguments and rebuttals by all parties, the Commission voted to stay the hearing for 90 days (July 6, 2006) and to request a formal Attorney General's Opinion on the applicability of NRS 233B.127(4).

On July 6, 2006 the SEC Appeals Panel re-convened and subsequently dismissed the appeal by Great Basin Mine Watch regarding renewal of a water pollution control permit issued by the Nevada Division of Environmental. The SEC Appeal Panel took this action based on the acceptance of the Attorney General's Opinion (AGO), which is posted on the SEC website at: http://www.sec.nv.gov/main/big_springs_appeal05.htm

Of note, the AGO was prepared in response to arguments presented by the State regarding Great Basin Mine Watch's "standing" in light of a legislative change to NRS 233B (i.e., Nevada's Administrative Procedures Act - APA). The recent change to the APA now requires that a party in a contested case must show a direct financial interest in the case to bring an appeal to the SEC, i.e., a party must be granted "standing."

This public meeting notice and meeting agenda has been posted at the Office of the Attorney General (address noted above), at the State Library and Archives in Carson City (100 Stewart Street), at the Grant Sawyer building in Las Vegas and at the offices of the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City and Las Vegas. The Carson City office is located at 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001 and the Las Vegas office is located at 1771 E. Flamingo, Suite 121-A.

Meeting Agenda:

1. Introductory statement of the Chairman
2. Review of Petition for Reconsideration
3. Comments / Motions from the SEC Appeal Panel * Action Item
4. Comments from the public -- after the decision has been rendered.
5. Adjournment of the appeal hearing.

Sincerely
John B. Walker

Executive Secretary
cc: SEC Appeal Panel
David Newton, DAG
Staff – NDEP