APPENDIX A

Press Releases for Public Scoping Meetings





Text/HTML

Meeting Agenda (http://deq.mt.gov/Portals/112/Land/FedSuperFund/Documents/Draft Agenda_Advisory9_12_17.docx?ver=2017-09-15-102511-103)

DEQ Press Releases

Ponozzo, Kristi (http://deq.mt.gov/Public/PressRelease/author/ponozzo-kristi) / Tuesday, October 3, 2017 / Categories: Department of Environmental Quality (http://deq.mt.gov/Public/PressRelease/category/department-of-environmental-quality)

Scoping meetings held for Environmental Impact Statement of proposed mine

DEQ asking for public comment to identify issues likely to involve significant impacts and possible alternatives

HELENA – The Montana Department of Environmental Quality is in the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement under the Montana Environmental Policy Act for the Black Butte Copper Project proposed by Tintina Montana.

The EIS will analyze the potential impacts of the proposed underground mine and serve as the MEPA review for other potential permits that may be issued by DEQ, including an air quality permit, a public water supply permit and a surface water discharge permit. It also lays out how the mining operation proposed in Tintina's application complies with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act.

"This environmental review will be extensive and we take it very seriously," said Director Tom Livers. "It will be a complex EIS and public input is an important piece of the process."

The first phase in preparing an EIS is to determine the scope. DEQ is asking for comments from federal, tribal, state and local governments and interested persons and groups that help identify issues likely to involve significant impacts and possible alternatives to be considered in the EIS.

The scoping period will begin October 2, 2017, and end Thursday, November 16, 2017. The public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations, dates and times:

- Great Falls Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, Montana, on Monday, October 30th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm
- White Sulphur Springs High School Gymnasium, 405 South Central Avenue, White Sulphur Springs, Montana, on Wednesday, November 1st from 6:00 to 9:00 pm.
- Park County High School Gymnasium, 102 View Vista Drive, Livingston, Montana, on Tuesday, November 7th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Under current law, DEQ has one year from the issuance of the more detailed compliance document to complete an Environmental Impact Statement. DEQ has hired a contractor to assist in the preparation of the EIS.

Tintina Montana originally submitted its application for a mining permit in December 2015. DEQ responded to the application in March 2016, outlining the need for complete information on geochemical aspects and hydrology. Tintina provided follow-up information in September 2016 and

DEQ issued a second deficiency response letter in December 2016. Tintina responded this May and DEQ issued a third deficiency letter with a response from Tintina in July. These responses provided DEQ complete information related to their geochemical testing and hydrologic modeling.

The permit application is available for the public to view at DEQ's main office in Helena (1520 East 6th Avenue). The application may also be viewed by visiting DEQ's website

(http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock/tintinamines (http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock/tintinamines)).

Scoping comments may be submitted at one of the public meetings, electronically

(deqtintinablackbuttecopperproject@mt.gov (mailto:deqtintinablackbuttecopperproject@mt.gov)), or by postal mail to the following address:

Craig Jones

Department of Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

Questions on the environmental review may also be directed to Craig. Jones electronically (crajones@mt.gov (mailto:crajones@mt.gov)) or 406-444-0514. Comments must be submitted to DEQ no later than November 16, 2017.

DEQ will not accept comments that are threatening, defamatory, libelous, slanderous, or discriminatory in nature. DEQ will make reasonable accommodations for those with disabilities who wish to participate in the meeting. If you require an accommodation, please contact Jeni Garcin at 406-444-6469 or jgarcin@mt.gov (mailto:jgarcin2@mt.gov).

For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov (mailto:kponozzo@mt.gov)

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The Montana Department of Environmental Quality is charged with protecting a clean and healthy environment as guaranteed to our citizens by our State Constitution. Our ultimate goal is to protect public health and to maintain Montana's high quality of life for current and future generations.

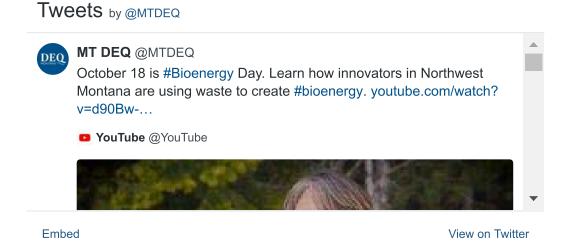
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Scoping meetings held for Environmental Impact... (http://deq.mt.gov/Public/PressRelease/scoping-meetings-held-for-environmental-impact-statement-of-proposed-mine)

DEQ asking for public comment to identify issues likely to involve significant impacts and possible alternatives

READ MORE (HTTP://DEQ.MT.GOV/PUBLIC/PRESSRELEASE/SCOPING-MEETINGS-HELD-FOR-ENVIRONMENTAL-IMPACT-STATEMENT-OF-PROPOSED-MINE)

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Driscoll, Paul / Tuesday, October 24, 2017 / Categories: Department of Environmental Quality

Additional Scoping Meeting Announced for Environmental Impact Statement of Proposed Mine

HELENA – The Montana Department of Environmental Quality is adding an additional public scoping meeting in Helena for the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement under the Montana Environmental Policy Act for the Black Butte Copper Project proposed by Tintina Montana. The meeting will be held on Nov. 6 at the Radisson Colonial Hotel from 6 to 9 pm.

Project proposed by Tintina Montana. The meeting will be held on Nov. 6 at the Radisson Colonial Hotel from 6 to 9 pm.
DEQ is making an additional public meeting option available in response to broad public interest in the project.
"We want to make as many opportunities available, as appropriate, so people can learn more about the project and provide us substantive feedback," said DEQ Director Tom Livers.
The EIS will analyze the potential impacts of the proposed underground mine and serve as the MEPA review for other potential permits that may be issued by DEQ, including an air quality permit, a public water supply permit and a surface water discharge permit. It also lays out how the mining operation proposed in Tintina's application complies with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act.
The first phase in preparing an EIS is to determine the scope. DEQ is asking for comments from federal, tribal, state and local governments and interested persons and groups that help identify issues likely to involve significant impacts and possible alternatives to be considered in the EIS.
The scoping period began October 2, 2017, and ends Thursday, November 16, 2017. The public scoping meetings will be held at the following locations, dates and times:

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Radisson Colonial Hotel, 2301 Colonial Drive, Helena, Montana, on Monday, November 6th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Park County High School Gymnasium, 102 View Vista Drive, Livingston, Montana, on Tuesday, November 7th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Under current law, DEQ has one year from the issuance of the more detailed compliance document to complete an Environmental Impact Statement. DEQ has hired a contractor to assist in the preparation of the EIS.

Tintina Montana originally submitted its application for a mining permit in December 2015. DEQ responded to the application in March 2016, outlining the need for complete information on geochemical aspects and hydrology. Tintina provided follow-up information in September 2016 and DEQ issued a second deficiency response letter in December 2016. Tintina responded this May and DEQ issued a third deficiency letter with a response from Tintina in July. These responses provided DEQ complete information related to their geochemical testing and hydrologic modeling.

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Craig Jones

Department of Environmental Quality

P.O. Box 200901

Helena, MT 59620-0901

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For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov

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Cianne Martin

From: Ponozzo, Kristi < KPonozzo@mt.gov> **Sent:** Monday, October 23, 2017 3:56 PM

Subject: News Release: Additional scoping meeting announced for Environmental Impact

Statement of proposed mine

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2017

Contact:

Kristi Ponozzo

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Office: 406-444-2813

Additional scoping meeting announced for Environmental Impact Statement of proposed mine

DEQ asking for public comment to identify issues and possible alternatives

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For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov

###

From: Ponozzo, Kristi

Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 3:09 PM

Subject: News Release: Scoping meetings held for Environmental Impact Statement of proposed mine

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 2, 2017

Contact:

Kristi Ponozzo

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Office: 406-444-2813

Scoping meetings held for Environmental Impact Statement of proposed mine

DEQ asking for public comment to identify issues likely to involve significant impacts and possible alternatives

HELENA – The Montana Department of Environmental Quality is in the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Statement under the Montana Environmental Policy Act for the Black Butte Copper Project proposed by Tintina Montana.

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Craig Jones
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For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov

###

From: Ponozzo, Kristi

Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 3:53 PM

Subject: News Release: DEQ begins review of Black Butte Copper Project under the Montana Environmental Policy Act

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 18, 2017

Contact:

Kristi Ponozzo

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Office: 406-444-2813

DEQ begins review of Black Butte Copper Project under the Montana Environmental Policy Act

HELENA – The Montana Department of Environmental Quality today announced that it will begin review of the Black Butte Copper Project under the Montana Environmental Policy Act.

Under current law, DEQ has one year from beginning the environmental review process to complete an Environmental Impact Statement. DEQ has been working on hiring a contractor who will assist in the preparation of the EIS and anticipates being able to start the EIS process this month.

The EIS is an extensive environmental review that discloses the potential impacts of the project and includes several opportunities for public review and involvement.

"Protecting clean air and water remains our top priority," said Montana Department of Environmental Quality Director, Tom Livers. "This is an extensive review process that ensures we continue to protect our environment, while following the law at every step."

Last month, DEQ notified Tintina Montana that its application was complete. Today DEQ is making available a detailed compliance document, with draft permit, that outlines the agency's determination that the mining operation proposed in Tintina's application complies with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act.

Tintina Montana will need to obtain several other permits from DEQ including air and water quality permits. Aspects of the project will also need to be reviewed and approved by the Hard Rock Mining Impact Board and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation for any water rights related issues.

Tintina Montana originally submitted its application for a mining permit in December 2015. DEQ responded to the application in March 2016, outlining the need for complete information on geochemical aspects and hydrology. Tintina provided follow-up information in September 2016 and DEQ issued a second deficiency response letter in December 2016. Tintina responded this May and DEQ issued a third deficiency letter with a response from Tintina in July. These responses provided DEQ complete information related to their geochemical testing and hydrologic modeling.

The compliance document is posted to the DEQ's website at: http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock/tintinamines

For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov

###

From: Ponozzo, Kristi

Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 8:14 AM

Subject: News Release: Mine application deemed complete and environmental review to begin

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 15, 2017

Contact:

Kristi Ponozzo

Montana Department of Environmental Quality

Office: 406-444-2813

Mine application deemed complete and environmental review to begin

DEQ completes deficiency reviews, determines application is compliant with Montana metal mines law

HELENA – The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has notified Tintina Montana that its latest permit application for the Black Butte Copper Project is complete and compliant. This determination means that DEQ has reviewed the metal mines application and, as required by law, has determined the revised permit application complies with the Montana Metal Mine Reclamation Act.

DEQ is now working on a more detailed compliance document and a draft permit, expected to be completed early next month. The compliance document will lay out how the mining operation proposed in Tintina's application complies with the Metal Mine Reclamation Act.

"This is a significant step in the process, but we still have many steps in our review of this application," said Director Tom Livers. Livers explained that the department is working towards starting review of the application under the Montana Environmental Policy Act. Tintina Montana will need to obtain several other permits from DEQ including air and water quality permits. The project will also need to be reviewed and approved by the Hard Rock Mining Impact Board; the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation for any water rights related issues; and the Impoundment Review Panel and Engineer of Record.

Under current law, DEQ has one year from the issuance of the more detailed compliance document to complete an Environmental Impact Statement. DEQ has been working on hiring a contractor who will assist in the preparation of the EIS and anticipates being able to start the EIS process next month.

"Completing an EIS of this complexity will be challenging, so we are doing everything we can to move forward quickly to allow us as much time as possible," said Livers.

The EIS is an extensive environmental review that discloses the potential impacts of the project and includes several opportunities for public review and involvement.

Tintina Montana originally submitted its application for a mining permit in December 2015. DEQ responded to the application in March 2016, outlining the need for complete information on geochemical aspects and hydrology. Tintina provided follow-up information in September 2016 and DEQ issued a second deficiency response letter in December 2016. Tintina responded this May and DEQ issued a third deficiency letter with a response from Tintina in July. These responses provided DEQ complete information related to their geochemical testing and hydrologic modeling.

The letter is posted to the DEQ's website at: http://deq.mt.gov/Land/hardrock/tintinamines

For questions or to arrange an interview, please contact Kristi Ponozzo, Public Policy Director, Department of Environmental Quality, 406-444-2813 or by email at: kponozzo@mt.gov

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Kristi Ponozzo Montana Department of Environmental Quality Public Policy Director 1520 East 6th Avenue PO Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620-0901 406-444-2813 (cell) 406-422-2537

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