PUBLIC NOTICE
THE STATE OF NEVADA, DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, AND THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REQUESTS COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSED PLAN FOR THE OPERABLE UNIT (OU) -8 OF THE ANACONDA COPPER MINE SITE (SITE)

The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (the agencies) are seeking public comments on the Proposed Plan to clean up the Former Arimetco operations (OU-8) portion of the Anaconda Copper Mine Site (Site) located in Lyon County, near Yerington, Nevada. The Proposed Plan (Plan) evaluates four remedial alternatives against the EPA's nine criteria for protecting human health and the environment.

The 30-day public comment period will begin on Monday, November 21, 2016, and end on Wednesday, December 21, 2016. A public meeting to present the Proposed Plan to the community and stakeholders will be offered at two times on December 12, 2016. The first meeting will be from 3:00 – 4:30 pm, and will be held in the Yerington Library, located at 20 Nevin Way in Yerington, NV. An informal poster session presenting the alternatives will begin at 2:30 pm in the same location. A second meeting will be from 6:00 – 7:30 pm, and will be held in the Yerington High School, located at 114 Pearl St. in Yerington, NV.

The Site has been proposed for inclusion on the National Priorities List (NPL) which would make it eligible for federal clean-up funding. The remedial actions proposed are to prevent potential releases attributed to past operating practices related to the heap leach pad (HLP) operations, and minimize the risks associated with the drain-down fluids. The overall Anaconda Copper Mine Site was divided into eight operable units (OUs). OU-8 covers the HLPs and associated ponds, products of the Arimetco operations from 1989 to 1999. The other operable units are being addressed separately under EPA orders to Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC), the responsible party, and remedial investigations and actions for those OUs are funded by ARC, and will be covered in separate Proposed Plans and Records of Decision.

OU-8 only is addressed in this Proposed Plan. The agencies invite comments on all alternatives and rationale presented in this Plan. The agencies will consider your comments as we develop our final decision on how to remediate OU-8, and will respond to all comments in a final written document which will be attached to the Record of Decision. Comments may be submitted verbally at the public meetings, or written and submitted at the meetings or via mail, email or FAX to NDEP (see contact info below).

The preferred alternative will reduce the risks of potential releases of OU-8 HLP drain-down fluids and prevent or minimize contact with contaminated fluids and solids. The preferred alternative is recommended because it will achieve substantial drain-down fluid reduction by addressing the source of the fluid generation (infiltration of precipitation through the HLPs) through capping the HLPs, which will significantly reduce the volumes and flow rates of fluids to manage.

Other alternatives were evaluated that are more cost-prohibitive or do not satisfactorily achieve the remedial action objectives. The proposed plan will be made available at the information repositories concurrent with the publication of this notice. The document may also be viewed on the NDEP website: **http://ndep.nv.gov/bca/anaconda/docs/Anaconda-Proposed-Plan-Final-11-16.pdf** and on the EPA website: **http://go.usa.gov/x8q2A**. Once you are at web page, go to "Documents and Reports", then "Fact Sheets".

INFORMATION REPOSITORY:

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
901 S. Stewart St.
Carson City, NV 89701

Bureau of Land Management
1340 Financial Blvd.
Reno, NV 89502

Yerington Public Library
20 Nevin Way
Yerington, NV 89447

EPA Region 9 Superfund Division (SFD-1)
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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