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How to Comment on the Final EIR Jan 1, 2023

Comments on the Idaho-Maryland Mine Final EIR should be directed with the audience in mind. The Final EIR in its current form, plus comments, will be presented to the Planning Commission. The Commission will decide whether or not to “Certify” it as being adequate as defined by CEQA. A major influence on that will be the planning department’s staff report. In addition to voting on the Final EIR, the Commission will make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve or deny the project. Thus, comments on the Final EIR become a part of the record and will ultimately be presented to the Board of Supervisors with the rest of the materials.

In addition to providing an accurate and complete evaluation of the impacts of the Mine, the Final EIR needs to provide adequate mitigations to lessen or eliminate the impacts.

If You Commented on the Draft

If you commented on the Draft EIR, you should be able to find your comment(s) and find the matching “response to comment(s).” When responding, consider the following:

- Did the consultant answer your questions satisfactorily?
- If not, why? Give specific reasons, examples, etc.
- Did the consultant address your concerns?
- Do you agree or disagree with the conclusions? Why?
- If they disagree with the conclusions in your comments, did the County provide any evidence or support to back it up, or did they just say they disagree?
- If mitigations are included, are they adequate?
- If not, why?

Also, look at Section 3.2 identifying the description of changes from the Draft to the Final EIR. See whether these changes sufficiently address your concerns about the project. If not, include this in your comment letter.

Comment on the Project as a whole, or on the Economic Study

In addition to the FEIR, you can submit other comments on the project in general and on the Economic Report. Generally, these should be identified as such or sent in separate emails.

Comments can be made verbally during the Planning Commission hearing. The date of hearing is not yet announced, but it will be after Feb 1.

Tips

Start by reading the FEIR introduction.

You can find your comments by looking on the list of commenters that starts on pg 13.

Submit your comments to Idaho.MMEIR@nevadacountyca.gov or matt.kelley@co.nevada.ca.us

It's a good idea to note the consultants Response to Comment "ID" that was given to the response.

Technical Tips

- It is difficult to navigate the 8661 page document. Even the contents/bookmarks window on the left side is difficult because of the number of items. You can search on your name or other unique words to find your comments.

- Use overall page numbers as a guide and note them once you locate the items you are seeking. If viewing the FEIR in Adobe Reader, the page is listed on the left side of the menu bar. You can enter the page you want and it will jump there. E.G. "350/8661")

- Also, note that the "Volumes" are not aligned with the Chapters. Probably the volumes are based on pages for printing purposes. For example, Volume IV starts as a continuation of Chapter 2. "Response to Comments"

- You can usually search on the "Response" number on the left of your comment to quickly find the response. (E.g. the first DTSC comment on pg 315 is labeled "Agcy 7-1". From that page if you enter "Agcy 7-1" into the search window, it will jump to the Response on pg 317.)

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