

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. 19  
approved as Minute Item  
19 by the State Lands  
Commission by a vote of 3  
to 2 at its 1/23/84  
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

19

1/23/84  
W 40306  
Hart  
PRC 6555  
PRC 6556  
PRC 6557

APPROVAL OF THREE  
PROSPECTING PERMITS FOR MINERALS  
OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES,  
SAND AND GRAVEL, MONO COUNTY

APPLICANT: Homestake Mining Company  
155 Glendale Avenue, Suite 18  
Sparks, Nevada 89431

Agent: Alan D. Cox  
Homestake Mining Company  
P. O. Box 10628  
Reno, Nevada 89510

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION:

Approval of three Prospecting Permits for two years to prospect for gold, silver and other valuable minerals, other than oil, gas, geothermal resources, sand and gravel, on approximately 1,280 acres of land located in Mono County.

CONSIDERATION: Filing fees totaling \$75, expense deposits totaling \$300 and acreage deposits totaling \$1,280.

TYPE OF LAND AND LOCATION:

Patented State school land - (I) N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 36, T5N, R26E, MDM; (II) E $\frac{1}{2}$  and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 16, T5N, R27E, MDM; (III) S $\frac{1}{2}$ , Section 36, T5N, R27E, MDM; Mono County, 12 miles east of Bridgeport in the Bodie Hills.

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CALENDAR PAGE	<u>109</u>
MINUTE PAGE	<u>133</u>

PROPOSED PROJECT:

Mapping and Surface Sampling

The applicant will conduct geologic mapping and rock outcrop chip sampling in the permit areas to prospect for valuable minerals. The rock samples will be removed by either hand chipping or through use of a portable air-powered rock chipper. The air compressor and associated equipment, if needed to complete the sampling, will be trailer or truck mounted and operated from existing roads and trails. Homestake will use only rubber tired vehicles and operate them at a speed of 20 miles per hour or less and will keep pet dogs leashed at all times to reduce wildlife mortality. The outcrop samples will be hauled out of State by pickup or truck for laboratory analysis and disposal. The rock materials removed from any of the permit parcels will be small and most likely will not exceed 1,000 lbs. in total weight.

Exploratory Drilling

A two-phase drilling program is planned for only a portion of Section 16. Drilling methods to be utilized for all holes will be open rotary or reverse circulation using air as a drilling medium. As a result, mud circulation pits will not be necessary. All rotary drill cuttings required for sampling will be collected in plastic bags and sent out of State for laboratory analysis and disposal. Drill hole diameters will be in the 4-6" range and will be less than 300 feet in depth. The majority of drill holes will be in the 100-200 foot depth range. Prior to drilling each hole, Homestake will inspect each drill site to determine if burrowing animals are present. If any burrows are found, the drill hole will be located where burrows and wildlife would not be adversely affected. Upon drill hole completion, and after it is determined that a particular hole is not needed for later studies, the drill hole will be plugged and abandoned. Down-hole conditions will dictate the method to be utilized in cementing the borehole.

Phase I Drilling Program

This phase includes the drilling of ten holes on a 500' x 500' grid pattern. Drilling procedures and methods will be as described above and some minor road construction for equipment access and drill pad preparation may be required. Phase I program indicates that a maximum of 7,800 feet (2.9 acres) of new roadbuilding may be needed. It should be noted that these estimates would be an upper estimate of surface disturbance and actually a lesser amount of roadbuilding may be required. New road construction will be conducted so that trees or shrubs will not be damaged, destroyed or cleared. When topography and ground conditions allow, cross country travel to drill sites will be practiced, thereby eliminating the need for road construction.

Phase II Drilling Program

A second phase of "fill-in" drilling will be initiated upon favorable results from the Phase I program and would consist of drilling an additional 15 holes. Drilling methods and techniques will be the same as those described above. It is anticipated that a minor amount of additional roadbuilding would be required to complete this phase and would involve a maximum of 3,000 feet (1.1 acres) of new road construction. Again, this activity would be carried out in the same fashion as the Phase I program and surface disturbance will likely be less than the estimate given.

TERM: The primary term of each Prospecting Permit is two years. The Commission may, in its discretion, extend the term for one additional year.

ROYALTY: Royalty payable under the permits shall be 20 percent of the gross value of the minerals secured from the permit areas and sold or otherwise disposed of or held for sale or other disposition.

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 19 <sup>4</sup> (CONT'D)

PREREQUISITE ITEMS:

1. Required statutory filing fees, expense deposits and acreage deposits have been submitted by the applicant.
2. Subject parcels are not known to contain commercially valuable deposits of minerals.
3. Royalty payable under any preferential lease issued shall not be less than ten percent of the gross revenue, less specific charges, as approved by the Commission related to transporting and processing as set forth in said lease.

STATUTORY REFERENCES:

- A. P.R.C.: Div. 6, Section 6891.
- B. Cal. Adm. Code: Title 2, Section 2200.

AB 884: 2/7/84.

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. An environmental assessment was conducted for this project by the Commission's staff pursuant to the requirements of the CEQA. Based upon such assessment, the staff has prepared and circulated a Negative Declaration (ND 347). Acceptable mitigation measures to the concerns raised during the public review period were incorporated into the project to reduce the potential environmental impacts to acceptable levels.
2. The project is situated on lands not identified as possessing significant environmental values pursuant to P.R.C. 6370.1, and is unclassified. A staff review of available environmental information indicates no reason to identify the subject parcel as having such values at this time.
3. Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6895, the applicant would have a preferential right to a lease for a maximum of 160 acres

embraced within each permit. Said right shall be subject to all necessary environmental approvals. The permits will not affect the discretion of the Commission in granting or denying the lease because of such environmental considerations.

4. Each permit shall provide for a performance bond in favor of the State. The total of such bonds is \$70,000.

APPROVALS OBTAINED:

Pursuant to P.R.C. Section 6890, the subject permit applications have been approved by the Office of the Attorney General as to compliance with applicable provisions of the law.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Site Map.
- C. Negative Declaration.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. CERTIFY THAT NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. 347 HAS BEEN COMPLETED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CEQA, AND THAT THE COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND CONSIDERED THE INFORMATION CONTAINED THEREIN. THIS PROJECT SHALL INCLUDE THESE PROSPECTING PERMITS AND ANY EXTENSION THE COMMISSION MAY GRANT IN ITS DISCRETION FOR THE SAME PROJECT DESCRIBED IN THE PERMITS, THE TERM OF WHICH SHALL NOT EXCEED A TOTAL OF THREE YEARS FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SUBJECT PERMITS.
2. DETERMINE THAT THE PROJECT WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.
3. DETERMINE THAT THE LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE PERMITS ARE NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN TO CONTAIN COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS OF MINERALS.
4. AUTHORIZE THE ISSUANCE OF THREE PROSPECTING PERMITS TO HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS, FOR ALL MINERALS, OTHER THAN OIL, GAS, GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES, SAND AND GRAVEL, ON (I) N $\frac{1}{2}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$  OF SW $\frac{1}{2}$ , SW $\frac{1}{2}$  OF SW $\frac{1}{2}$  AND NW $\frac{1}{2}$  OF SE $\frac{1}{2}$ , SECTION 36, T5N, R26E; (II) E $\frac{1}{2}$  AND SW $\frac{1}{2}$ , SECTION 16, T5N, R27E; (III) S $\frac{1}{2}$ , SECTION 36, T5N, R27E; MCB&M MONO COUNTY, CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 1,280 ACRES; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD FORM OF PERMIT ROYALTY PAYABLE UNDER THE PERMITS SHALL BE 20 PERCENT. ROYALTY

CALENDAR ITEM NO. 19 (CONTD)

PAYABLE UNDER ANY PREFERENTIAL LEASE ISSUED UPON THE DISCOVERY OF COMMERCIALY VALUABLE DEPOSITS FOR ANY AND ALL MATERIALS EXTRACTED OR REMOVED FROM SAID PREMISES FOR SALE OR STOCKPILING SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN TEN PERCENT OF THE GROSS REVENUE, LESS SPECIFIC CHARGES, AS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION, RELATED TO TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING, AS SET FORTH IN SAID LEASE; THE DETERMINATION OF SAID ROYALTIES SHALL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION.

THE PERMITS FURTHER PROVIDE THAT BEFORE ISSUANCE OF ANY PREFERENTIAL LEASE, A STUDY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE PERMITTED AREA MUST BE PREPARED AND CERTIFIED. THE PERMITS SHALL NOT AFFECT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMISSION TO APPROVE OR DENY THE ISSUANCE OF SUCH A LEASE BASED UPON ITS REVIEW OF THIS ENVIRONMENTAL STUDY.

CALENDAR PAGE	<u>114</u>
MINUTE PAGE	<u>138</u>

EXHIBIT "A"  
LAND DESCRIPTION

W 40306

Those portions of California State school lands in Mono County, California,  
described as follows:

$N\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $N\frac{1}{2}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of  $SW\frac{1}{4}$ , and the  $NW\frac{1}{4}$  of the  $SE\frac{1}{4}$ , of Section  
36, T5N, R26E, MDM.

$E\frac{1}{2}$  and the  $SW\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 16, T5N, R27E, MDM.

$S\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 36, T5N, R27E, MDM.

END OF DESCRIPTION

PREPARED DECEMBER 1, 1983 BY BOUNDARY AND TITLE UNIT, LEROY WEED, SUPERVISOR.

CALENDAR PAGE	<u>115</u>
MINUTE PAGE	<u>139</u>

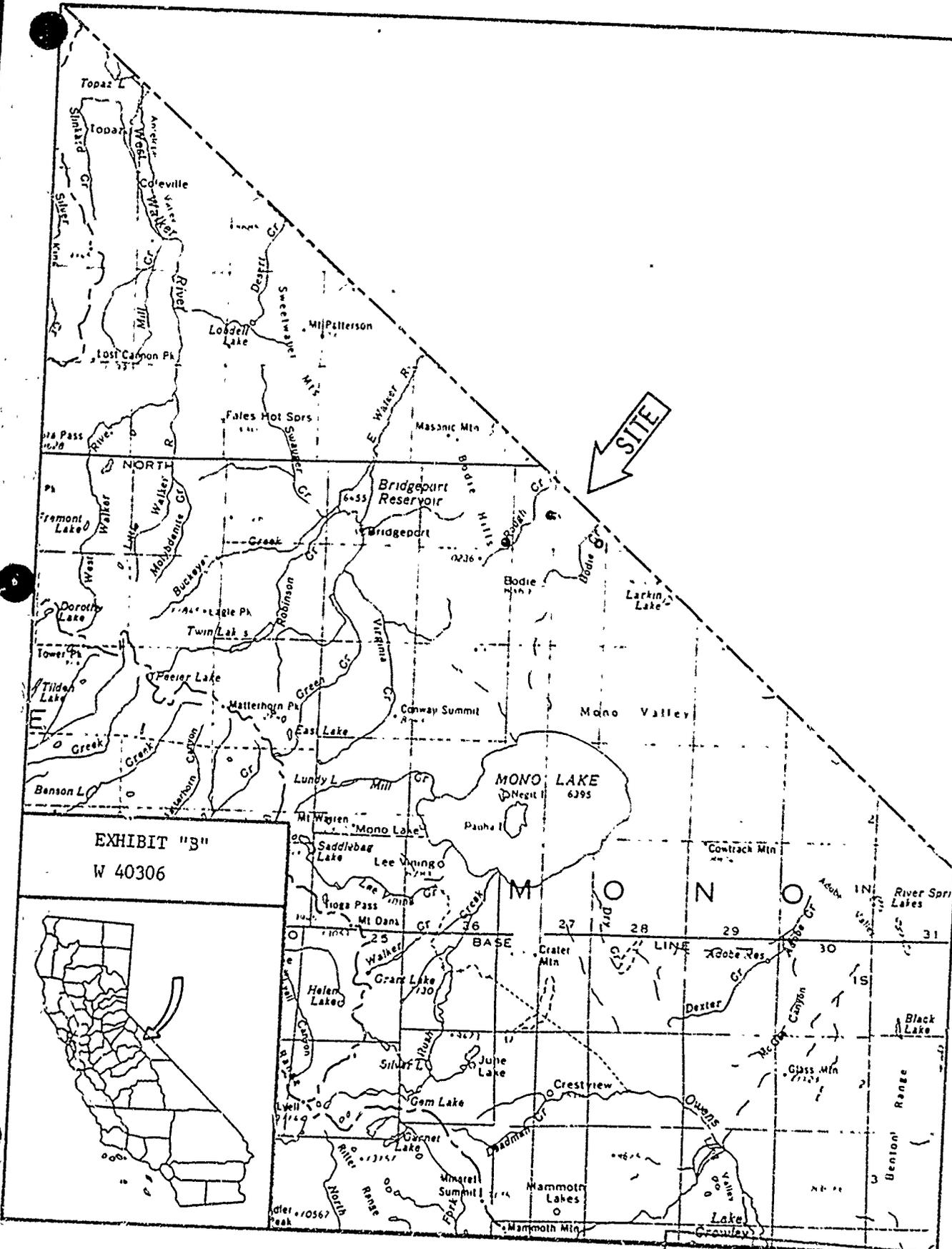


EXHIBIT "B"  
W 40306



CALENDAR PAGE 116  
MINUTE PAGE 140

EXHIBIT "C"

PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

EIR ND 347

File Ref.: W 40306

SCH#: 82080203

Project Title: Mineral Prospecting Permit - Bodie Hills.

Project Proponent: Homestake Mining Company

Project Location: Portions of Sections 16 and 36, T.5 N., R.27 E. and a portion of Section 36, T.5 N., R.26 E., M.D.M., approximately 12 miles east of the Town of Bridgeport, Mono County

Project Description: The project will involve the mapping of the geology, chip-sampling of rock outcrops, and the drilling of ten holes in a grid pattern. If the drilling results are favorable, fifteen additional "fill-in" holes will be drilled to discover and delineate any possible orebody

Contact Person: Ted T. Fukushima

Telephone: (916)322-7813

This document is prepared pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Section 21000 et seq., Public Resources Code), the State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15000 et seq., Title 14, California Administrative Code), and the State Lands Commission regulations (Section 2901 et seq., Title 2, California Administrative Code).

Based upon the attached Initial Study, it has been found that:

- the project will not have a significant effect on the environment.
- mitigation measures included in the project will avoid potentially significant effects.

CALENDAR PAGE	<u>117</u>
MINUTE PAGE	<u>147</u>

File: W 40306

SCH No.: 82080203

MITIGATION MEASURES PROPOSED FOR  
INCORPORATION INTO THE PROJECT DESCRIPTION

1. The applicant shall not damage, destroy or clear any trees or shrubs.
2. Prior to drilling each hole, the applicant shall inspect each drill site to determine if burrowing animals are present. If any burrows are found, the drill hole will be located where burrows and wildlife would not be adversely affected.
3. Only rubber tired vehicles shall be used and operated at a speed limit of 20 miles per hour or less on dirt roads within the State parcel to reduce wildlife road mortality.
4. The applicant shall keep pet dogs leashed at all times to prevent depredation of wildlife.

CALENDAR PAGE	118
MINUTE PAGE	142

COMMENTS RECEIVED ON INITIAL STUDY AND  
RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

1. Toiyabe National Forest

Comments:

"Homestake has recently conducted similar work on adjacent National Forest lands in Mineral County, Nevada, and further work of this nature is expected. We believe that Homestake's proposal is a logical extension of their exploration program on both National Forest and BLM administered lands in this area. The present proposal should have no effect on National Forest lands.

We recommend that a Negative Declaration will be suitable for this project".

Response:

None required.

2. California Department of Conservation

Comments:

"Because the total surface disturbance from the proposed prospecting activities exceeds one acre, the applicant is required, under California's Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, to submit a Reclamation Plan to Mono County for approval. The Mono County Planning Department should be contacted to obtain information on local SMARA requirements".

Response:

If the applicant exceeds the volume and surficial area quantities subject to exemption under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, the project will be subject to a Reclamation Plan approved by Mono County.

3. Bureau of Land Management, Bishop Resource Area

Comments:

"It is my opinion that an EIR should be prepared on the proposed activities for the following reasons:

CALENDAR PAGE	119
MINUTE PAGE	143

1) Parcel 1 (T. 5 N., R. 27 E., Section 16) contains areas of low sage vegetative habitat which is primarily found on shallow rocky soils and is very difficult to rehabilitate.

2) Parcel 2 (T. 5 N., R. 26 E., Section 36) contains streambank woodland vegetative habitat types which contain aspen groves and are very important to wildlife.

3) Parcel 1 lies within one mile of known populations of Draba quadricostata and Astragalus johannis-howellii, both of which are on the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Candidate Species List.

4) Parcel 3 (T. 5 N., R. 27 E., Section 36) lies within one mile of Draba quadricostata, Phacelia monoensis, and Astragalus johannis-howellii, all of which are on the USFWS Candidate Species List.

5) All three parcels contain drainages contiguous with drainages on public land which have been identified as containing gullying problems.

6) All three parcels contain mule deer migration corridors and crucial mule deer spring, summer, fall use areas and fawning habitat.

7) Parcels 1 and 2 are within pronghorn antelope spring, summer, fall use areas and fawning habitat.

8) Parcel 1 is within two miles of sage grouse strutting grounds and is thus considered crucial nesting habitat. BLM enforces a seasonal closure on crucial nesting areas from May 1 through June 30.

9) Parcels 1 and 2 adjoin public lands within Wilderness Study Area CA-010-100 which are managed under Interim Management Policy so as to prevent impairment to wilderness values.

10) Parcel 1 lies within an area rated as having a very high sensitivity for cultural resources."

Responses:

1. See Mitigation Measure #1.  
The impacts would be slight and only occur in site-specific locations within Parcel 1.
2. See Mitigation Measure #1.  
The only activities authorized under the issued prospecting permit for Parcel 2 will be geologic mapping and surface rock chip sampling. The activities involved in the geologic mapping and rock chip sampling programs will not result in the destruction of any streambank woodland vegetative habitats or aspen trees or aspen groves.

CALENDAR PAGE	120
MINUTE PAGE	144

3. Draba quadricostata and Astragalus johannis-howellii have been recommended for inclusion in Category 5C (too common to be considered for federal listing) of USFWS Candidate Species List. Any impacts would be slight and only occur in site-specific locations.
  4. See #3 above.  
The only activities authorized under the issued prospecting permit for Parcel 3 will be geologic mapping and surface rock chip sampling. These activities should not impact the subject species.
  5. Natural erosion processes on Parcels 2 and 3 will not be altered and/or accelerated since no construction or surface disturbance will be authorized under the permits that will be subject to a bond. On Parcel 1, erosion and runoff control measures will be implemented in areas of surface disturbance as described on Page 4 of detailed project description.
  6. See Mitigation Measures #3 and #4.  
A temporary displacement of mule deer from traditionally used areas will occur on the three parcels as humans conduct prospecting activities. The proposed activities are not anticipated to cause permanent displacement or adversity to overall habitat conditions. No critical habitat requirements are evident on the State school lands. No endangered animal species are known to exist within the permit areas.
  7. See response 3-6.
  8. See response 3-6.
  9. The proposed exploration activities will be temporary, localized to the State parcels, and thus should not impair any wilderness quality currently assigned to the federal parcels.
  10. After their review of the circulated Initial Study, no comments on cultural resources were received from the State Office of Historic Preservation, Native American Heritage Commission, Bridgeport Indian Rancheria, or the Benton Paiute Reservation.
4. Department of Fish and Game

Comments:

"We think a focused EIR will be necessary for the following reasons:

CALIFORNIA PAGE	121
MINUTE PAGE	145

A. Environmental Impact Assessment Checklist - Part II.

(1) Page 2, Section F. Animal Life. Item 4.

We expect that deterioration of existing wildlife habitat will occur. Soils will be disturbed, new roads will be constructed, off-road vehicle use will stimulate additional vehicle use and human intrusion.

Mule deer, antelope, sage grouse, and other wildlife species use the project sites and could be adversely affected by these developments.

(2) Page 2, Section F, Noise.

Noise generated by exploration and prospecting activities could disturb or displace wildlife. Potential noise generated impacts upon wildlife should be fully investigated.

(3) Page 3, Section M, Transportation/Circulation

There is a conflict regarding the assessment of impacts of new road construction. On Page 3 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Checklist no road-related impacts were noted. However, on Page 3 of the Detailed Project Description there are indications that new roads will be needed. Such new access routes into the Bodie Hills could be used by the public (ORV's) resulting in probable further loss of wildlife habitat. We think that existing road access within the Bodie Hills is excessive and that further construction could only result in increased impacts to wildlife resources.

We recommend that road-related impacts to wildlife resources be fully assessed.

(4) Page 3, Section S. Recreation.

We would expect the quality and quantity of existing public recreation uses (hunting, camping, and their related uses) to be reduced, particularly if new roads are constructed.

(5) Page 4, Section U. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

We believe the proposed project has the potential to significantly degrade the quality of the environment by reducing the quality and quantity of wildlife habitat.

B. Detailed Project Description

- (6) 1. It is stated in the Surface Sampling Program (page 1) "Actual access to the sampling areas will be by foot if

CALENDAR PAGE	122
MINUTE PAGE	146

existing vehicle access is not available." We request information on how the State Lands Commission will enforce this measure.

(7) 2. The Phase 1 Drilling Program (page 3) describes new road construction that would remove 2.9 acres of wildlife habitat. We believe actual loss of habitat will be much greater due to increased human use-related impacts. Especially troublesome will be the effect of cross country vehicle use which may stimulate off-road recreational vehicle uses. Impacts from these potentially damaging developments should be investigated as to their impacts to wildlife habitat in the Bodie Hills.

(8) 3. The Proposed Reclamation and Environmental Protection Measures (page 4) should include a measure to require the project sponsor to provide a substantial monetary bond to insure that adequate and timely reclamation of the site will be accomplished.

(9) The project sponsor should be advised that diversion of the natural flow or changes in the channel, bed, or banks of any river, stream, or lake will require notification to the Department of Fish and Game as called for in Section 1603 of the Fish and Game Code. This notification (with fee) and the subsequent agreement must be completed prior to initiating any such changes. We urge compliance with this code section prior to completion of the specific design since project features associated with streams or streambeds may require modifications."

Response:

1. See Mitigation Measures and Responses 3-5 and 3-6.

Paragraph 24 of the permit provides for the permittee to control, within any State parcel, the public's access to the prospecting sites. Any unauthorized vehicle use of such a parcel would interfere with and impede Homestake's prospecting activities. Since the permittee will be granted the authority to control access within the subject parcels, unauthorized vehicle use is expected to be minimal.

2. Prospecting noise will cause a temporary displacement of wildlife from traditionally used areas. Noise is not anticipated to cause permanent displacement or adversity to overall habitat conditions.

3. See response 3-9 and 4-1.

The only road construction activities authorized under a prospecting permit are those described in the Negative Declaration (paragraph 3 and Exhibit "A" of the permit). Map C of the Initial Study shows the only authorized road construction for access to the State parcel. There will be only one access road. Off road vehicles (ORVS), by

CALENDAR PAGE	123
MINUTE PAGE	147

definition, can trespass on the State parcel if no access road exists.

4. See response 4-1.

The intensity of conflicts between the proposed prospecting activities and the existing public recreation uses (hunting and camping) are not anticipated to be large and would be site specific only. Thus, there would not be an extensive curtailment of existing public recreation uses of this area caused by the proposed prospecting activities.

5. See Mitigation Measures and Responses 3-1 through 3-9.

6. The applicant must provide bonds totaling approximately \$70,000. Staff will inspect and photograph the three State parcels before issuance of the permit and after the permit expires. The site inspections and photographs will be evidence of any surface disturbance not authorized under the prospecting permit.

7. See response 4-3 and 4-5.

8. See response 4-6.

Paragraph 18 of the permit requires the adequate and timely reclamation of the site by the permittee.

9. The applicant will be advised of the provisions of Fish and Game Code Section 1603. In addition, any permit issued by the Commission requires any applicant to receive and comply with all other laws, regulations and permit conditions.

CALENDAR PAGE	124
MINUTE PAGE	148

File Ref.: W 40306  
SCH# 82080203

April 1, 1983

INITIAL STUDY  
INTRODUCTION

Homestake Mining Company has applied to the State Lands Commission for a prospecting permit on State lands located in the Bodie Hills region in northeastern Mono County. The proposed project consists of geologic mapping, surface sampling, and drilling ten holes in a grid pattern. If the drilling results are favorable, fifteen additional "fill-in" holes will be drilled to discover and delineate any possible orebody. The permit, when issued, is for a two-year period.

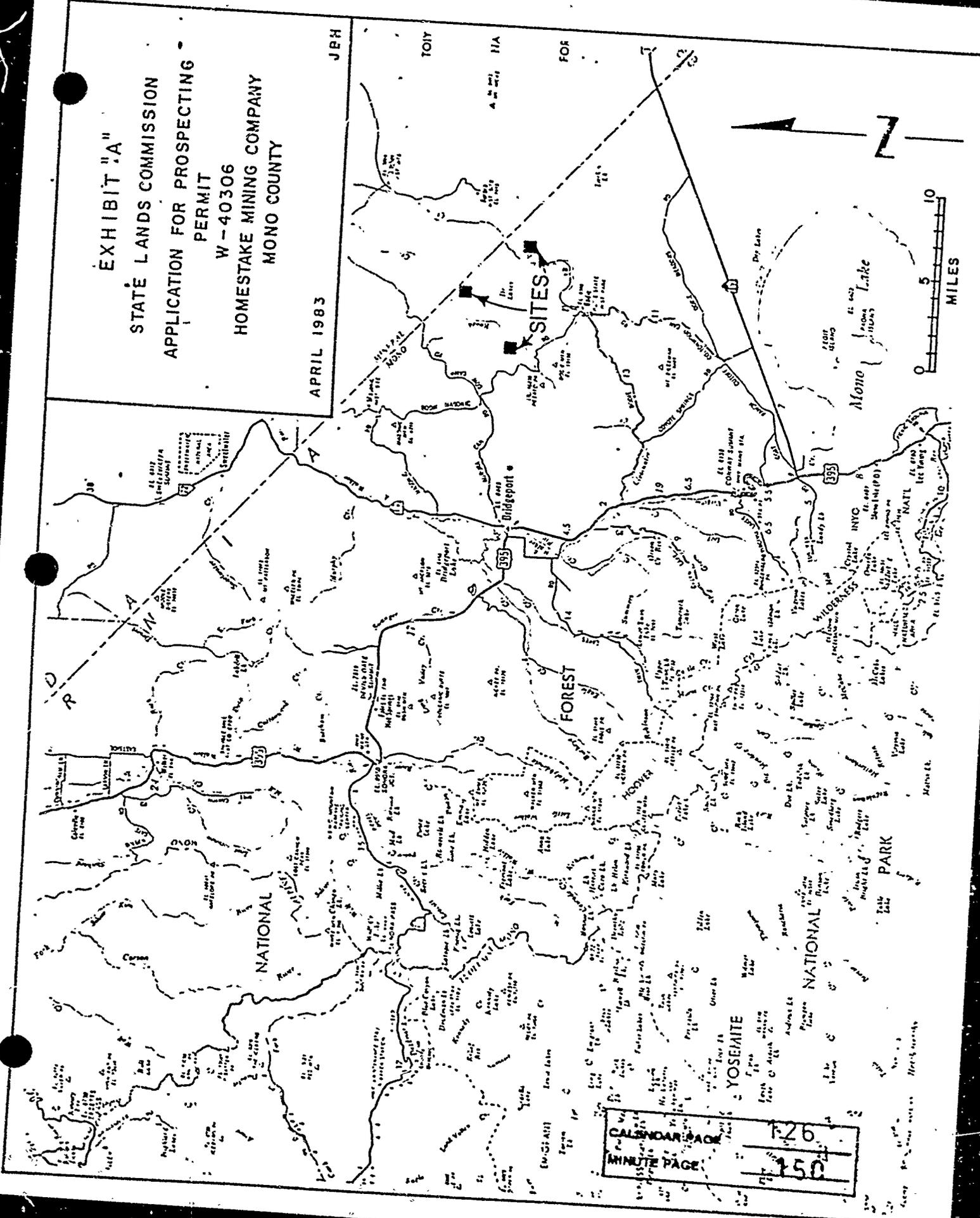
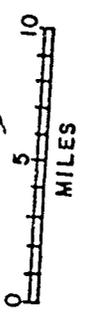
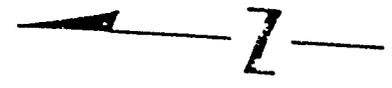
This Initial Study consists of an environmental impact assessment checklist, information form responses, and maps.

STATE LANDS COMMISSION  
April 1983

CALENDAR PAGE	125
MINUTE PAGE	149

EXHIBIT "A"  
 STATE LANDS COMMISSION  
 APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING  
 PERMIT  
 W-40306  
 HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY  
 MONO COUNTY

APRIL 1983  
 JBH

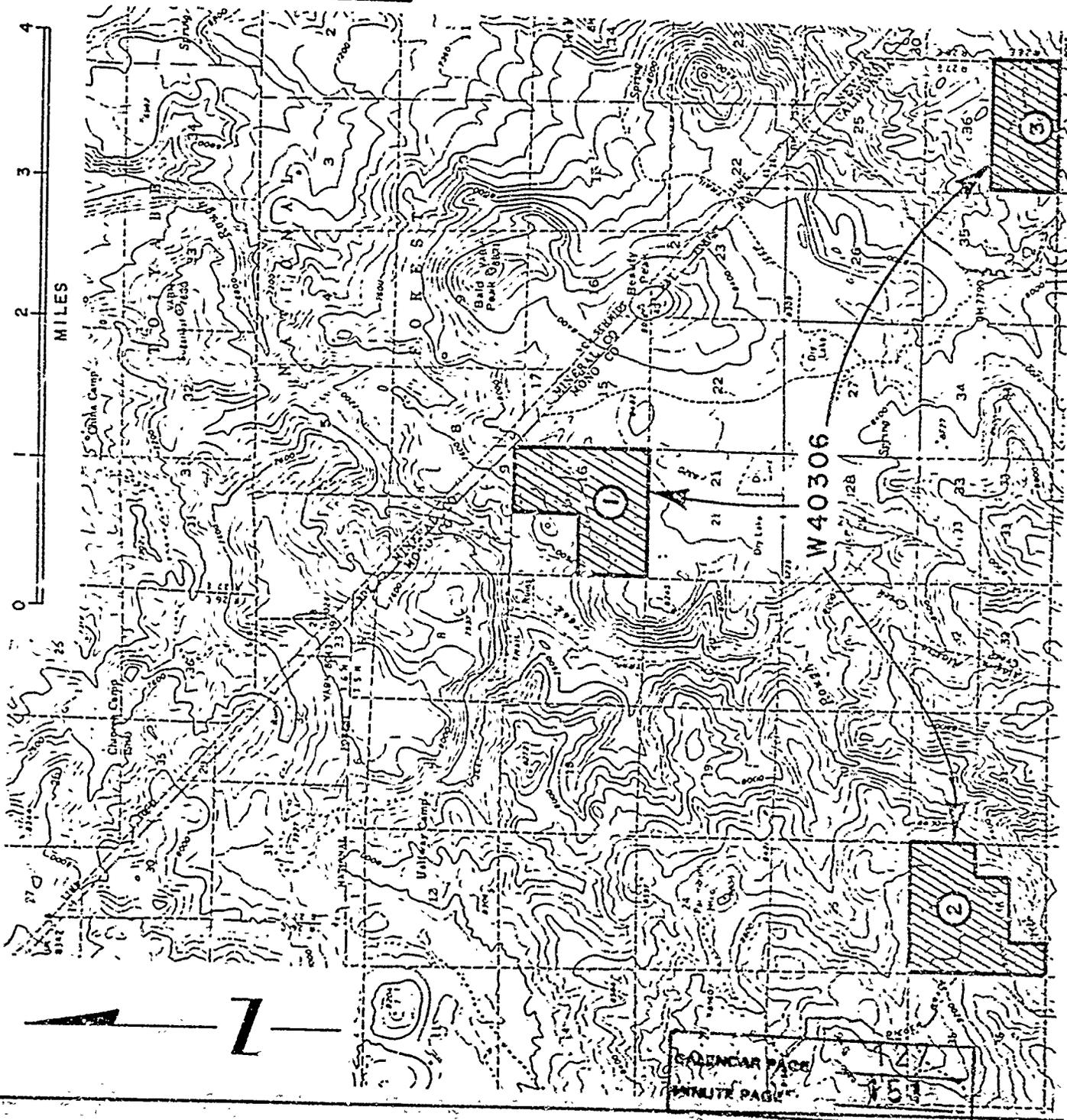


CALNDAR PAGE 126  
 MINUTE PAGE 150

EXHIBIT "B"

AURORA, BODIE,  
BRIDGEPORT, AND  
TRENCH CANYON

15' U S G S  
QUADRANGLES



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST - PART II

Form 13.20 (7/82)

File Ref.: W 40306

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. Applicant: Homestake Mining Company
155 Glendale Avenue, Suite 18
Sparks, NV 89431

B. Checklist Date: 3 / 29 / 83

C. Contact Person: James B. Hart, State Lands Commission
Telephone: (213) 590-5201

D. Purpose: Prospect for valuable minerals on approximately 1,280 acres.

E. Location: Portions of Sec. 16 & 36, T.5N., R.27E.; portion of Sec. 36, T.5N., R.26E., MDB&M, Mono Co. See attached maps.

F. Description: Applicant will map, sample, and drill maximum of twenty-five holes in Sec. 16 to discover and delineate any possible orebody. See detailed project description.

G. Persons Contacted:

II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS. (Explain all "yes" and "maybe" answers)

A. Earth. Will the proposal result in:

- 1. Unstable earth conditions or changes in geologic substructures?
2. Disruptions, displacements, compaction, or overcovering of the soil?
3. Change in topography or ground surface relief features?
4. The destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?
5. Any increase in wind or water erosion of soils, either on or off the site?
6. Changes in deposition or erosion of beach sands, or changes in siltation, deposition or erosion which may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed of the ocean or any bay, inlet, or lake?
7. Exposure of all people or property to geologic hazards such as earthquakes, landslides, mudslides, ground failure, or similar hazards?

Yes Maybe No

Grid of checkboxes for Yes, Maybe, No corresponding to the list items.

CALENDAR PAGE 128
MINUTE PAGE 152

B. Air. Will the proposal result in:

- |   | Yes                                 | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Substantial air emissions or deterioration of ambient air quality? .....   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. The creation of objectionable odors? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Alteration of air movement, moisture or temperature, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

C. Water. Will the proposal result in:

- |   |                          |                                     |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Changes in the currents, or the course or direction of water movements, in either marine or fresh waters? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Changes in absorption rates, drainage patterns, or the rate and amount of surface water runoff? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Alterations to the course or flow of flood waters? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Change in the amount of surface water in any water body? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Discharge into surface waters or in any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Alteration of the direction or rate of flow of ground waters? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 7. Change in the quantity of ground waters, either through direct additions or withdrawals, or through interception of an aquifer by cuts or excavations? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. Substantial reduction in the amount of water otherwise available for public water supplies? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 9. Exposure of people or property to water-related hazards such as flooding or tidal waves? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. Significant changes in the temperature, flow or chemical content of surface thermal springs? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

D. Plant Life. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Change in the diversity of species, or number of any species of plants (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of plants? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Introduction of new species of plants into an area, or in a barrier to the normal replenishment of existing species? .....                | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Reduction in acreage of any agricultural crop? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

E. Animal Life. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Change in the diversity of species, or numbers of any species of animals (birds, land animals including reptiles, fish and shellfish, benthic organisms, or insects)? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Reduction of the numbers of any unique, rare or endangered species of animals? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Introduction of new species of animals into an area, or result in a barrier to the migration or movement of animals? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Deterioration to existing fish or wildlife habitat? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

F. Noise. Will the proposal result in:

- |   |                                     |                          |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Increase in existing noise levels? .....         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| 2. Exposure of people to severe noise levels? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

G. Light and Glare. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The production of new light or glare? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

H. Land Use. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. A substantial alteration of the present or planned land use of an area? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

I. Natural Resources. Will the proposal result in:

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Increase in the rate of use of any natural resources? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Substantial depletion of any nonrenewable resources? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

CALENDAR PAGE	128.1
MINUTE PAGE	153

- J. *Risk of Upset.* Does the proposal result in:
- |   | Yes                      | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. A risk of an explosion or the release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to, oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or upset conditions? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Possible interference with emergency response plan or an emergency evacuation plan? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- K. *Population.* Will the proposal result in:
- |   |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The alteration, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of the area? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
- L. *Housing.* Will the proposal result in:
- |   |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Affecting existing housing, or create a demand for additional housing? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
- M. *Transportation/Circulation.* Will the proposal result in:
- |   |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Generation of substantial additional vehicular movement? .....                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Affecting existing parking facilities, or create a demand for new parking? .....         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Substantial impact upon existing transportation systems? .....                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Alterations to present patterns of circulation or movement of people and/or goods? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Alterations to waterborne, rail, or air traffic? .....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Increase in traffic hazards to motor vehicles, bicyclists, or pedestrians? .....         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- N. *Public Services.* Will the proposal have an effect upon, or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas:
- |   |                          |                          |                                     |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Fire protection? .....                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Police protection? .....                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Schools? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Parks and other recreational facilities? .....           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Maintenance of public facilities, including roads? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Other governmental services? .....                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- O. *Energy.* Will the proposal result in:
- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Use of substantial amounts of fuel or energy? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Substantial increase in demand upon existing sources of energy, or require the development of new sources? .. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- P. *Utilities.* Will the proposal result in a need for new systems, or substantial alterations to the following utilities.
- |                                    |                          |                          |                                     |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Power or natural gas? .....     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Communication systems? .....    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Water? .....                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Sewer or septic tanks? .....    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. Storm water drainage? .....     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Solid waste and disposal? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- Q. *Human Health.* Will the proposal result in:
- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Creation of any health hazard or potential health hazard (excluding mental health)? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Exposure of people to potential health hazards? .....                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
- R. *Aesthetics.* Will the proposal result in:
- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The obstruction of any scenic vista or view open to the public, or will the proposal result in the creation of an aesthetically offensive site open to public view? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
- S. *Recreation.* Will the proposal result in:
- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. An impact upon the quality or quantity of existing recreational opportunities? .. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|

CALENDAR PAGE	129	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
MINUTE PAGE	154	<input type="checkbox"/>

T. Cultural Resources.

- |   | Yes                      | Maybe                    | No                                  |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Will the proposal result in the alteration of or the destruction of a prehistoric or historic archeological site?                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Will the proposal result in adverse physical or aesthetic effects to a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the proposal have the potential to cause a physical change which would affect unique ethnic cultural values? .....              | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Will the proposal restrict existing religious or sacred use within the potential impact area? .....                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

U. Mandatory Findings of Significance.

- |  |                          |                          |                                     |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory? ..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Does the project have the potential to achieve short term, to the disadvantage of long-term, environmental goals? .....   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Does the project have impacts which are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly? .....  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

III. DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION (See Comments Attached)

See attached Detailed Project Description, Discussion of Environmental Evaluation, Form 69.3 and Form 59.2.

IV. PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- I find the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because the mitigation measures described on an attached sheet have been added to the project. A NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- I find the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.

Date: 3 / 29 / 83

James B. Hart  
 For the State Lands Commission  
 CALENDAR PAGE 130  
 MINUTE PAGE 155  
 FORM 3330 (12-82)

## DETAILED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Homestake Mining Company is currently engaged in various mineral exploration activities in the Bodie Hills region of Mono County, California. The general area of interest lies to the east of Bridgeport, California near the California-Nevada state line. Geologic mapping, surface rock sampling and exploratory drilling to date in the Bodie Hills area have been conducted primarily on federal lands under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management and on privately owned lands. Three State parcels of potential mineral interest in the area have not been evaluated and are the subject of this prospecting permit application (see Exhibit "B").

Homestake is planning to conduct a geologic mapping and surface sampling program in all three State parcels to further evaluate potential mineralization. In addition, a phased exploratory drilling program is proposed for Parcel #1 located in Section 16, Township 5 North, Range 27 East, MDBM (see Map C). The proposed exploration activities are discussed in detail below.

1. Surface Sampling and Geologic Mapping Program, Parcels #1 - 3:
  - a. Surface Sampling Program

A limited amount of surface rock chip sampling has been conducted in the Bodie Hills region by Homestake personnel for the last two years and is currently in progress at several locations. Sampling on the State lands is necessary to supplement existing data and information in the area. These activities will better define the areal extent of potential surface mineralization.

The activities involved in the surface sampling program will create no additional land disturbance and vehicular access to sampling areas will be confined to existing roads and trails. Actual access to the sampling areas will be by foot if existing vehicle access is not available. Samples to be obtained for analysis will be removed by either hand chipping or by use of a portable air-powered rock chipper. The air compressor and associated equipment, if required to complete the

sampling, will be trailer or truck mounted and operated from existing roads and trails. Air supply lines will be laid out from the air compressor to the sample area. Surface samples collected will be hauled out of State for subsequent laboratory analysis and disposal. The rock materials removed from any one of the three State mineral tracts will be small and most likely will not exceed 1,000 pounds in weight.

b. Geologic Mapping Program

Geologic mapping and interpretation of the areas are planned. These activities will create no surface disturbance in the area. Personnel will use existing trails for vehicular travel in the areas to be mapped. Field interpretation and investigations will be carried out on foot where existing vehicle access is not possible.

2. Exploratory Drilling Program, Parcel #1:

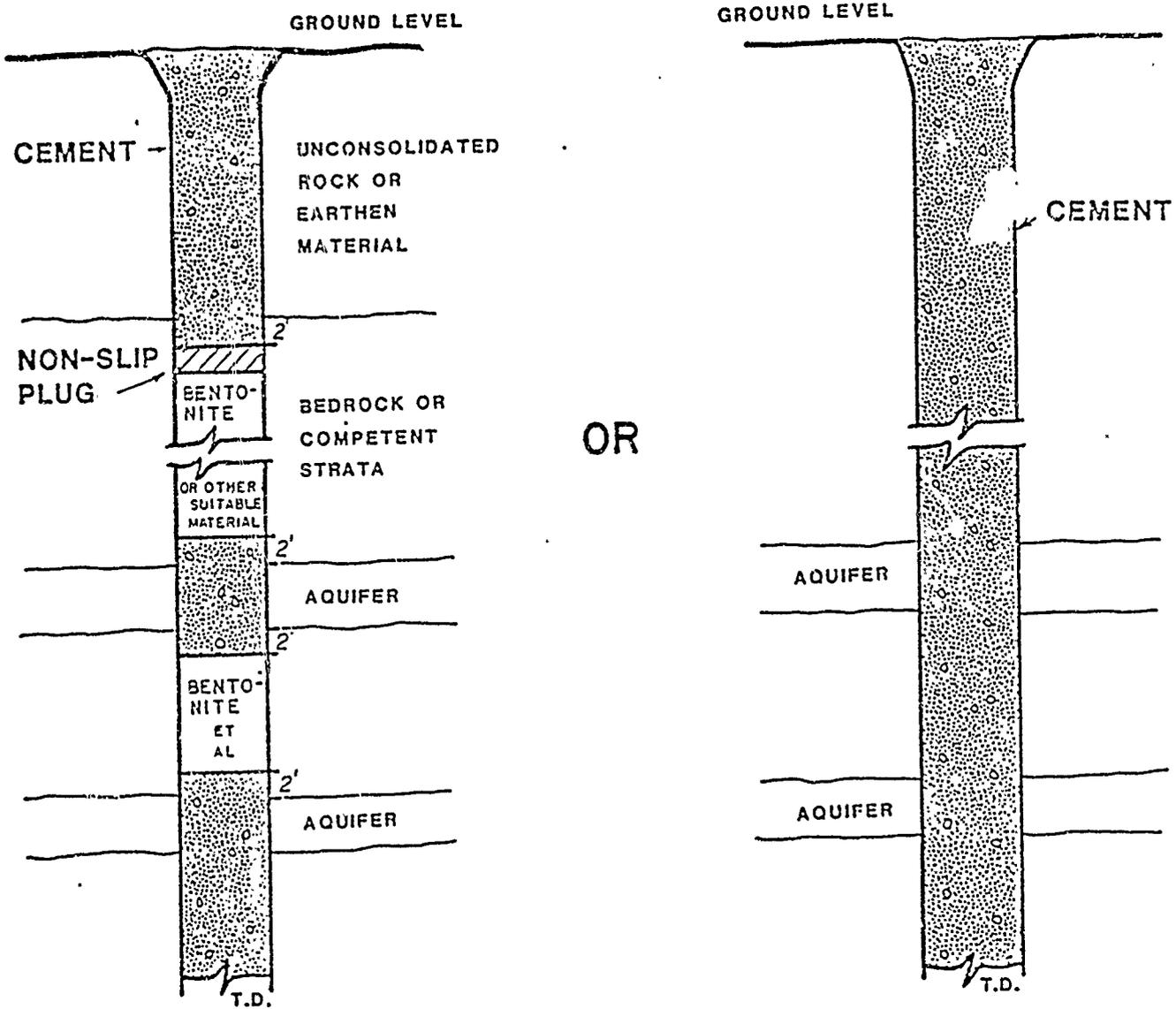
A phased exploratory drilling program is proposed for Parcel #1 as depicted on Map C. Two drilling program phases are planned to adequately evaluate the potential mineralization in the area. Phase 2 drilling will be conditioned upon successful results from the Phase 1 drilling program.

Drilling methods for all planned drill holes will be open rotary or reverse circulation, using air as a drilling medium. As a result, mud circulation pits will not be necessary. All rotary drill cuttings for mineral sampling will be collected in plastic bags and sent out of State for laboratory analysis and subsequent disposal. Drill hole diameters will be in the 4-6" range and less than 300 feet in depth. The majority of drill holes will be in the 100-200 foot depth range. Upon drill hole completion and determination that a particular hole is not needed for later studies, all drill holes will be plugged and abandoned as shown in one of the following schematics. Down-hole conditions will dictate which method will be utilized in cementing the borehole.

CALENDAR PAGE	132
MINUTE PAGE	157

# WET HOLE

(Groundwater Encountered At One Or More Intervals)



OR

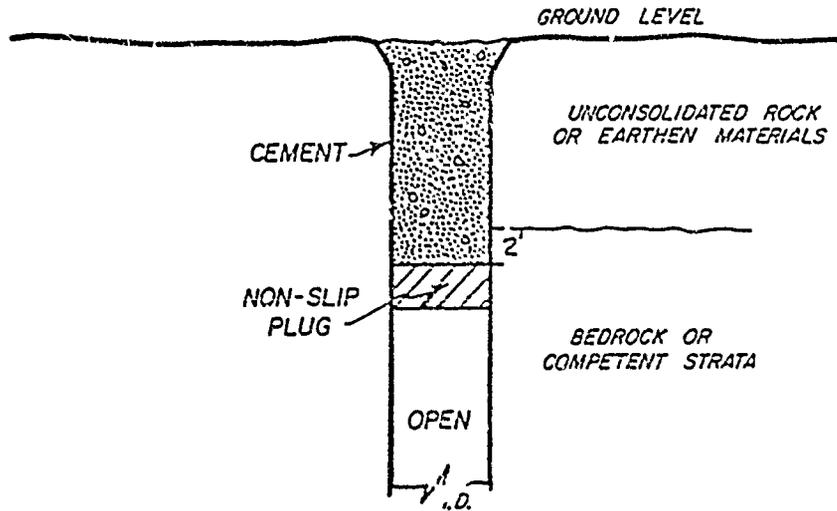
**NOTE:** Permit requirements may specify alternative or additional plugging requirements depending on specific project location.

CALIFORNIA	
HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY	
D.H. CROSS SECTION	
DATE	REVISED
1989	158
CALENDAR PAGE	MINUTE PAGE
158	158

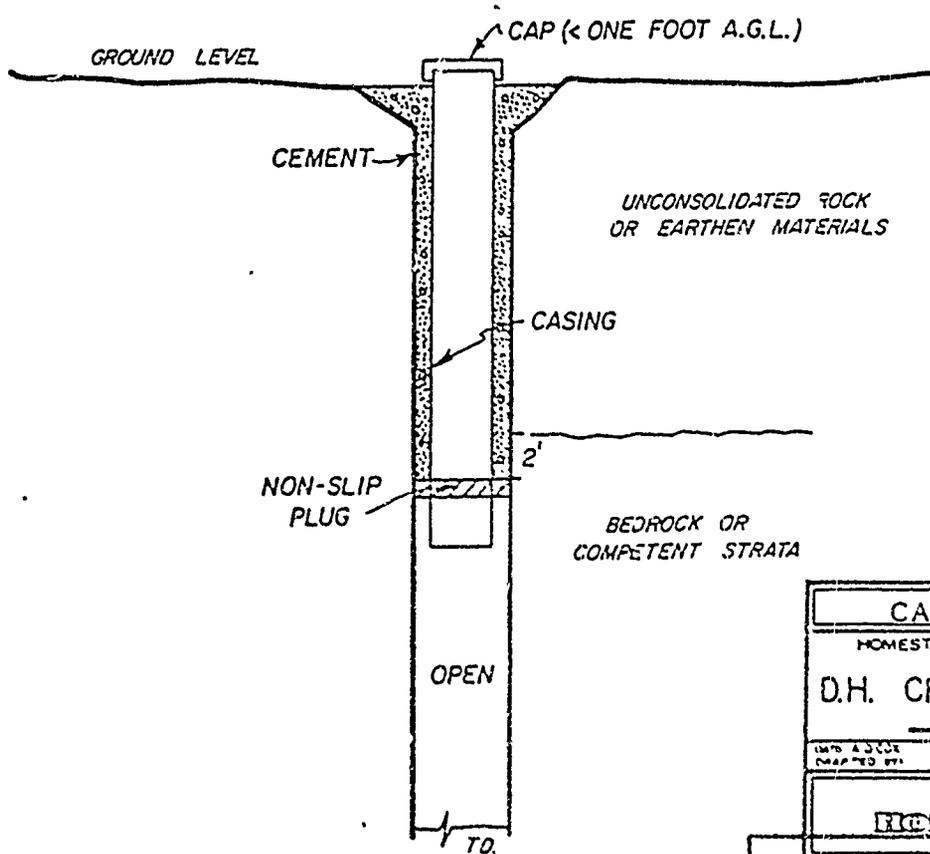
CALENDAR PAGE 158  
MINUTE PAGE 158

DATE 12/31/89  
REVISED 158  
HOMESTAKE

# DRY HOLE (No Water Encountered)



OR



CALIFORNIA	
HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY	
D.H. CROSS SECTION	
DATE ACROSS DRAWN BY	DATE OF REVISION
HOMESTAKE	
734	

CALIFORNIA PAGE	159
MINUTE PAGE	

a. Phase I Drilling Program

The first phase drilling program for Parcel #1 includes completion of ten planned drill holes on a 500' x 500' grid pattern. Drilling procedures and methods will be as described above. It is estimated that minor road construction for equipment access and drill pad preparation will be required. Map C shows the locations of proposed drill holes and new road construction. Phase 1 plans indicate that a maximum of 7800 feet (2.9 acres) of new roadbuilding in the area may be needed. It should be noted that these estimates would be an upper estimate of surface disturbance and actually a lesser amount of roadbuilding may be required. New road construction will be conducted only to facilitate drill rig access and setup. When topography and ground conditions allow, cross country travel to drill sites will eliminate the need for road construction.

New roads will be constructed with a track-mounted dozer and will follow natural land contours to the maximum extent possible. As a result, the amount of cut and fill material created will be minimized and potential erosion problems from the disturbed area will be kept to a minimum. Anticipated maximum roadbed widths for new roads will be approximately 16 feet. This will allow movement of drilling equipment and provide room for drilling activities.

b. Phase II Drilling Program

A second phase of "fill-in" exploratory drilling will be conditioned upon favorable results from the Phase I - ten hole program and would consist of completing an additional fifteen drill holes. Drilling methods and techniques will be identical to those in the first phase drilling program. It is anticipated that a minor amount of additional roadbuilding would be required to complete this program and would involve a maximum of 3000 feet (1.1 acres) of new road construction. Again, this activity would be carried out in the same fashion as the Phase I program and surface disturbance will likely be less than the estimate given.

CALENDAR FILE	135
WRITE PAGE	100

3. Surface Disturbance:

The estimated maximum sample volume for surface sampling is 0.67 cubic yards.

The estimated maximum surface area disturbance of drillsite preparation for the twenty-five holes is 0.39 acre. The estimated maximum drilled sample volume for the twenty-five holes is 54 cubic yards.

The estimated maximum surface area disturbance for new road construction during the permit term is 4.0 acres.

4. Proposed Reclamation and Environmental Protection Measures:

During the planned drilling activities, Homestake will implement reasonable measures that are deemed necessary to minimize adverse impacts and prevent unnecessary surface disturbance in the area. Reclamation of all disturbed areas will be completed as outlined below or as directed by applicable prospecting permit requirements:

- a. Topsoil materials occurring in drill site or new road locations where surface disturbances are created will be saved where practicable and available.
- b. Erosion and runoff control measures will be implemented in areas of surface disturbance to prevent excessive environmental impacts. Examples of possible control measures would include construction of water bars, ditching, and other water control structures.
- c. Trash, litter, and other refuse materials generated during exploration activities will be hauled off-site and disposed of properly. Toxic waste materials will not be used or generated as a result of exploration activities, therefore plans for disposal of toxic substances will not be needed.

After exploration activities in the area are complete, the following standards will be used to govern reclamation of the disturbed areas:

- a. Regrading and reshaping of disturbed areas will be completed to an appropriate contour wherever practicable after the area is abandoned and roads or drill sites are no longer needed.
- b. Topsoil materials that are saved prior to surface disturbance will be redistributed over regraded and recontoured area whenever available.

SCALE DRAWING PAGE	136
MINUTE PAGE	161

- c. After areas of surface disturbance are regraded, contoured, and available topsoil replaced, the area will be reseeded to establish a ground cover and minimize erosional effects. All revegetation activities will be commenced at the earliest feasible time after reclamation activities are completed. Revegetation efforts will be timed in accordance with proper planting times and favorable weather conditions. A selection of vegetative species will be chosen for revegetation to provide long term stabilization of the reclaimed area.

If a commercially valuable mineral deposit is discovered through prospecting efforts under authorization of a prospecting permit, a comprehensive environmental report will be required on the future impacts of mining the deposit.

CALENDAR PAGE	137
MINUTE PAGE	162

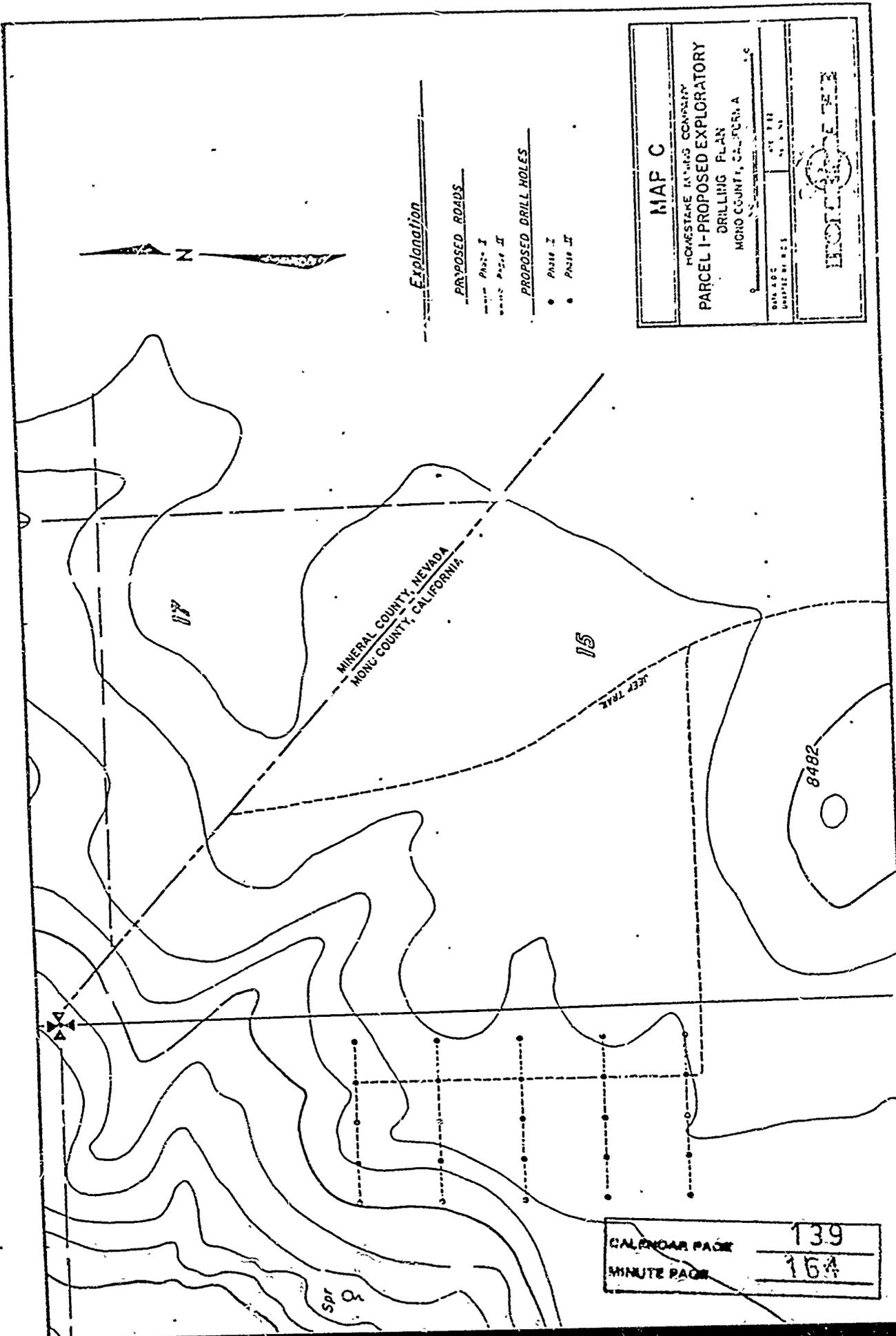
## III. Discussion of Environmental Evaluation

- A 2. Disruption, displacement, compaction, and over-covering of the soil will occur in the immediate vicinity of any road and drill site construction.

All disturbed areas will be reclaimed as described in Detailed Project Description.

- A 5. An increase in wind and water erosion of the soil at newly constructed roads and drillsites, especially in hilly terrain, will occur during rain and wind storms. Erosion will be minimal since runoff control measures will be implemented in areas of surface disturbance.
- B 1. Temporary dust emissions will occur during road and drill site construction and drilling.
- C 6. Drilling may penetrate one or more aquifers with a subsequent flow path through the drill hole. If ground water is encountered, the drill hole will be plugged as shown on the wet hole schematic.
- F 1. The operating drill rig, air compressor, and accessory activities will temporarily increase the existing noise levels.

CALENDAR PAGE	138
MINUTE PAGE	163



Explanation

PROPOSED ROADS

- Phase I
- Phase II

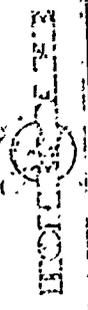
PROPOSED DRILL HOLES

- Phase I
- Phase II

**MAP C**

MONESTAKE MINING COMPANY  
 PARCEL I-PROPOSED EXPLORATORY  
 DRILLING PLAN  
 MONO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

DATE: 1962  
 DRAWN BY: R.C.S.



CALENDAR PAGE	139
MINUTE PAGE	164

100' contour interval  
 1:25,000 scale  
 U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM (EIF) 59.2

The following information is provided in the same order and sequence as indicated on Form 59.2 (Rev. 4/78) - "Environmental Information Form" (E.I.F.). It should be noted that the following information and discussion of project impacts addresses only those arising out of the exploration activities proposed in the prospecting permit application. Any subsequent exploration or development activity in the prospecting area would be premised upon successful results from the initial program and the associated environmental impacts would be addressed at the time of application for a preferential mineral lease.

1. Project and It's Location: The mineral exploration program proposed by Homestake is called the "Bodie Hills Reconnaissance Project". For locations of the subject parcels, refer to the following map attachments.

Exhibit "A" - Project Location

Exhibit "B" - Project Area

Map C - Parcel #1 Proposed Exploration Drilling Plan

2. Statement of the Objectives Sought by the Proposed Project: Discovery and subsequent evaluation of an economic precious metals mineral deposit through a multiple stage exploration program.
3. General Description of the Project: See narrative project description.
- 4(a) Description of the Environmental Setting: The permit areas currently under application by Homestake are located in the Bodie Hills region of Mono County, approximately 10-15 air miles east and northeast of Bridgeport, California. The areas of interest are located within the Rough Creek/Bodie Creek watershed system which drains into the East Walker River near the Lyon and Mineral County boundary line in Nevada. The East Walker River system flows generally north-northeast through Mason Valley.

Existing land use patterns, vegetative ecosystems, indigenous flora and fauna, soil regimes and other environmental resources which compromise the environmental setting for the permit areas are best described by the two Environmental Assessment documents which are included in the last section of the permit package ("Supporting Environmental Documents" section). The Final Environmental Assessment for the Borealis Gold Mine - Mineral County, Nevada - Toiyabe Forest Service, May 1981 (#1950 (2810)) describes the existing environment for an area in the

CALENDAR PAGE	140
MINUTE PAGE	165

southern Wassuk Mountain Range and is very similar to the permit area region. A more site specific Environmental Assessment was also completed by the Bureau of Land Management in June, 1981 for a proposed Homestake exploration program at the Paramount Mine. This area is located near the general permit areas and provides additional information on the existing environment.

- 4(b) Water Quality Aspects: At this time there are no compliance certifications in regard to applicable water quality standards for the proposed exploration activities. The land parcels currently under prospecting permit application by Homestake are all located within the East Walker River watershed system. More specifically, the permit area is drained by the Rough Creek and Bodie Creek tributary systems. Due to the nature of exploration activities planned by Homestake in the permit areas, no process water will be required or utilized for exploration operations. As a result there will be no discharge to the watershed systems in the general permit area. There are no surface waters located within the permit areas and, due to the minor nature of surface disturbances related to planned exploration activity, sediment or erosional aspects related to operations will be negligible.
5. Assessment of Impact: The exploratory activities currently proposed within the prospecting permit application are deemed to be of a minor nature and impacts negligible. In the event that exploration efforts are successful and a viable, economic mineral ore body is located, it is anticipated that Homestake would apply for a preferential mineral lease and ultimately a mine development could result. At that time the impacts related to mine development and operation would have to be addressed in detail.
6. Significant Environmental Effects of Project: The prospecting and exploratory activities outlined in the permit plan are deemed to have few, if any, environmental effects of significance in the area. Vehicle exhaust emissions, fugitive dust generation, and ambient noise level increases related to the exploratory activities will be of a minor, localized nature and short in duration. Impacts upon soil resources in the area will be minimal due to the small extent of vehicular travel required to carry out exploration activities. Surface disturbances will be small and impacts causing soil erosion will be slight.
7. Any Significant Environmental Effects Which Cannot Be Avoided if the Proposal is Implemented: As discussed in item (6) above, none of the impacts arising from proposed prospecting permit activities are considered to be significant.
8. Mitigation Measures Proposed to Minimize the Significant Environmental Effects: The exploration program proposed in the permit application are well recognized in

CALENDAR PAGE	141
MINUTE PAGE	166

the industry and are currently the accepted methods to cost effectively find, identify and evaluate mineral ore bodies. Due to the competitive nature of the mining industry, conservation of manpower, supplies and energy must be inherent in all exploration activities.

9. Alternatives to the Proposed Action: Other, more costly methods of carrying out the proposed exploration program could be pursued and implemented, however, project economics would likely be affected such that the program would have to be abandoned. The exploratory methods proposed are the most cost effective and efficient methods recognized by today's industry. A "no action" alternative to the proposed action would dictate that the potential mineralization in the permit area could not be evaluated at this time.
  
10. The Relationship Between Local Short Term Uses of Man's Environment and the Maintenance and Enhancement of Long Term Productivity: The proposed exploration activities will involve a short term use of the land areas involved, however, any impacts on current land use and utilization would be of a very short duration and magnitude. Temporary disruption of current land use patterns would be insignificant. Long-term productivity and use of the area would likewise be unaffected by those activities proposed in the requested permit.
  
11. Any Significant Irreversible Environmental Changes Which Would Be Involved in the Proposed Action Should it be Implemented: None
  
12. The Growth-Inducing Impact of the Proposed Action: None
  
13. Energy Conservation: (See Discussion in Item #8). The primary energy resource consumption involved in the exploration program would be fuel for exploration vehicles, drilling rigs, and earth moving equipment (track-mounted dozer).
  
14. Organizations and Persons Consulted:
  1. Toiyabe National Forest - Bridgeport Office
  2. Bureau of Land Management - Bishop Resource Area Office
  3. California Water Quality Control Board - South Lake Tahoe Branch Office
  4. California State Lands Commission - Long Beach Office

Date Filed July 12, 1982

WORK ORDER W 40306

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM  
(To be completed by applicant)

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name and address of developer or project sponsor: HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY  
155 Glendale Avenue, Suite 18, Sparks, Nevada 89431
2. Address of project: See Legal Description - General Data Section  
Assessor's Block and Lot number: None
3. Name, address, and telephone number of person to be contacted concerning this project: Alan D. Cox  
Regional Manager - Environmental Affairs (702) 331-6980 (Same address above)
4. Indicate number of the permit application for the project to which this form pertains: \_\_\_\_\_
5. List and describe any other related permits and other public approvals required for this project, including those required by City, regional, state and federal agencies: None
6. Existing zoning district: \_\_\_\_\_  
Present use of site: Livestock grazing - Rangeland
7. Proposed use of site (Project for which this form is filed): Precious metals exploration

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

8. Site size. Three parcels totaling 1,280 acres, more or less
9. Square footage. N.A.
10. Number of floors of construction. N.A.
11. Amount of off-street parking provided. N.A.
12. Attach plans. See map exhibits A, B, and C attached.
13. Proposed scheduling. See Project Description - General Data Section
14. Associated projects. None on State Mineral Lands
15. Anticipated incremental development. Phased Exploration Program - See Project Description
16. If residential, include the number of units, schedule of unit sizes, range of sale prices or rents, and type of household and household size expected. N.A.
17. If commercial, indicate the type, whether neighborhood or city, oriented, square footage of sales area, and loading facilities. N.A.
18. If industrial, indicate type, estimated employment per shift, and loading facilities. N.A.
19. If institutional, indicate the major function, estimated employment per shift, facilities, and community benefits to be derived from the project. N.A.

estimated occupancy, loading	<u>443</u>
CALENDAR PAGE	
MINUTE PAGE	<u>168</u>

20. If the project involves a variance, conditional use or rezoning application, state this and indicate clearly why the application is required. None required

Are the following items applicable to the project or its effects? Discuss below all items checked yes. (attach additional sheets as necessary)

YES NO

21. Change in existing features of any bays, tidelands, beaches, lakes or hills, or substantial alteration of ground contours.
22. Change in scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads.
23. Change in pattern, scale or character of general area of project.
24. Significant effect on plant or animal life.
25. Significant amounts of solid waste or litter.
26. Change in dust, ash, smoke, fumes or odors in vicinity. Minor, temporary increase in ambient dust levels during exploratory drilling and road construction
27. Change in ocean, bay, lake, stream or ground water quality or quantity, or alteration of existing drainage patterns.
28. Change in existing noise or vibration levels in the vicinity. Temporary and localized increase in noise levels during drilling activities
29. Site on filled land or on slope of 10 percent or more.
30. Use or disposal of potentially hazardous materials, such as toxic substances, flammables or explosives.
31. Change in demand for municipal services (police, fire, water, sewage, etc.)
32. Increased fossil fuel consumption (electricity, oil, natural gas, etc.) Temporary increase in fuel needs during drilling and roadbuilding.
33. Relationship to a larger project or series of projects. See Attachment #4

#### ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

34. Describe the *project site* as it exists before the project, including information on topography, soil stability, plants and animals, and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Describe any existing structures on the site, and the use of the structures. Attach *photographs* of the site. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted. See Project Description - General Data Section - Attachment #2
35. Describe the *surrounding properties*, including information on plants and animals and any cultural, historical or scenic aspects. Indicate the type of land use (residential, commercial, etc.), intensity of land use (one-family, apartment houses, shops, department stores, etc.), and scale of development (height, frontage, set-back, rear yard, etc.). Attach *photographs* of the vicinity. Snapshots or polaroid photos will be accepted. See Environmental Assessment Documents for the Borealis Mine and Paramount Exploration Projects in vicinity of Permit Area.

#### CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the statements furnished above and in the attached exhibits present the data and information required for this initial evaluation to the best of my ability, and that the facts, statements, and information presented are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date July 12, 1982

Alan D. Coyle

For HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY

CALENDAR PAGE	144
MINUTE PAGE	159

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION FORM

33. The phased exploration program proposed, if successful, could ultimately lead to the discovery of a viable and economic precious metals ore body. Homestake at that time would apply for a preferential mineral lease on the subject land parcel and begin additional investigation and feasibility studies.

CALENDAR PAGE	145
MINUTE PAGE	170

MAILING LIST FOR LETTER  
File Ref.: W 40306, SCH#: 82080203

Homestake Mining Company  
Attn: Mr. Alan D. Cox  
Post Office Box 10628  
Reno, NV 89510

Mono Co. Planning Dept.  
Attn: Robert Sandy  
Post Office Box 8  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

Maurice Crawford, Chairman  
Bridgeport Indian Rancheria  
P.O. Box 37  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

Joseph Saulque, Chairman  
Benton Paiute Reservation  
P.O. Box 1525  
Bishop, CA 93514

District Ranger  
Bridgeport Ranger District  
Toiyabe National Forest  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Manager  
U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
800 Truxtun, Room 311  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Field Supervisor  
Division of Ecological Services  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services  
2800 Cottage Way, Room E2727  
Sacramento, CA 95825

CALENDAR PAGE	146
MINUTE PAGE	171

MAILING LIST - MEMOS  
W 40306, SCH# 82080203

Regional Water Quality  
Control Board  
Lahontan Region 6  
Attn: Roy C. Hampson,  
Executive Officer  
2092 Lake Tahoe Boulevard  
South Lake Tahoe, CA 95702

Department of Transportation  
District 9  
Attn: Bob Ruhnke  
500 South Main Street  
Bishop, CA 94514

Department of Parks & Recreation  
Attn: Maurice Getty  
1220 "K" Street, 3rd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dept. of Health  
Harvey Collins  
714 "P" Street, Room 430  
Sacramento, CA 95814

State Water Resources  
Control Board  
John Huddleston  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dept. of Fish and Game  
Fred A. Worthley, Jr.,  
Regional Manager  
245 W. Broadway, Suite 350  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Native American Heritage Commission  
Attn: Willie Pink  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Office of Historic Preservation  
Nick del Cioppo  
1220 "K" Street, 3rd Floor  
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Dept. of Forestry  
Dean Lucke  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1506-17  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Department of Conservation  
Environmental Program Coordinator  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1354  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Air Resources Board  
Anne Geraghty  
1120 "Q" Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attorney General's Office  
Robert Collins, Deputy Attorney General  
3580 Wilshire Boulevard, 6th Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90010

CALENDAR PAGE	147
MINUTE PAGE	152