

MINUTE ITEM

This Calendar Item No. C14
was approved as Minute Item
No. 4 by the State Lands
Commission by a vote of 8
to 0 at its 3/27/86
meeting.

CALENDAR ITEM

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03/27/86
PRC 6555
Pelka

APPROVAL OF EXTENSION OF PERMIT
TO PROSPECT FOR MINERALS
OTHER THAN OIL AND GAS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES,
MONO COUNTY

PERMITTEE: Homestake Mining Company
650 California Street
San Francisco, California 94108

PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION:

Approval of extension of a permit to prospect
for gold, silver and other valuable minerals
other than oil and gas, geothermal resources,
sand and gravel, on approximately 480 acres of
land, located in Mono County.

TERMS OF EXTENSION:

March 1, 1986 through February 28, 1987.

AREA, TYPE LAND AND LOCATION:

Approximately 480 acres of patented State
school land described as E 1/2 and SW 1/4,
Section 16, T5N R27E, MDM, Mono County,
12 miles east of Bridgeport in the Bodie Hills.

PREREQUISITE ITEMS:

Application for extension submitted by
Permittee.

Statutory filing fee and processing fee have
been submitted by Permittee.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Three prospecting permits in the Bodie
Hills of Mono County, PRC 6555, PRC 6556,
and PRC 6557 were approved for issuance by

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the Commission on January 23, 1984, effective March 1, 1984. The permits granted Homestake Mining Company the exclusive right for a period of two years to prospect for minerals other than oil and gas, geothermal resources and sand and gravel. Homestake proposed to conduct geologic mapping and outcrop chip sampling on all permits. In addition they proposed a drilling program on one permit. During the two year period, Homestake Mining Company has performed the geologic mapping and rock chip sampling on the three State sections. The rock samples have subsequently been assayed for valuable minerals, and the results are currently being evaluated. Homestake has requested a one year extension on the one parcel that they proposed to drill. Homestake is finalizing a report on the results of their preliminary work and will provide the staff these results as soon as they are available. The extension will provide the permittee additional time to further evaluate and verify its preliminary exploratory work on the subject parcel. The renewal is in the best interest of the State.

2. A Negative Declaration including the proposed extension was prepared by the Commission staff pursuant to CEQA and implementing regulations, and was certified by the Commission January 23, 1984.
3. After reviewing the request for extension of the permit, staff believes there are no circumstances surrounding the project nor changes in the environment or the project that indicate the proposed action will have a significant effect on the environment.
4. The primary term of a Prospecting Permit is two years. The Commission may, in its discretion, extend the term for one additional year.

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STATUTORY REFERENCES:

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

AB 384

N/A.

OTHER PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority and the State CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Adm. Code 15061), the staff has determined that this extension is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA, under the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have a potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Staff believes there is no possibility this action may have a significant effect on the environment.

Authority: 14 Cal. Adm. Code 15061 (b)(3).

2. Any change in the proposed prospecting activities will require an environmental review pursuant to CEQA Regulations.
3. Pursuant to P.R.C. 6895, the applicants would have a preferential right to a lease for a maximum of 160 acres embraced within the permit. Said right shall be subject to all necessary environmental approvals. The permit will not affect the discretion of the Commission in granting or denying such environmental approvals.

EXHIBITS:

- A. Land Description.
- B. Site Map.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMISSION:

1. FIND THAT THIS EXTENSION IS EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENTS OF CEQA PURSUANT TO 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15061 BECAUSE THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT THE ACTIVITY MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT 14 CAL. ADM. CODE 15061(B)(3).

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2. PURSUANT TO SECTION 6891 OF THE P.R.C., AUTHORIZE THE EXTENSION THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 1987, OF PROSPECTING PERMIT PRC 6555, ISSUED TO HOMESTAKE MINING COMPANY, TO PROSPECT FOR ALL MINERALS OTHER THAN OIL AND GAS AND GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES; ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE PERMIT ARE TO REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT.

EXHIBIT "A"

LAND DESCRIPTION

PRC 6555 .

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

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

END OF DESCRIPTION

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

