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**NEVADA BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOLOGY**  
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**STATE AND FEDERAL PERMITS REQUIRED IN NEVADA  
BEFORE MINING OR MILLING CAN BEGIN**

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This is a list of State and Federal permits and actions required during development, planning, construction, and before operation of Nevada mines and mills. We hope it will help both individuals and companies through the complex, often confusing regulatory maze—please understand that inclusion in this list does not indicate approval of these regulations.

Remember that in addition to State and Federal permits, County and City permits may be required. We have attempted to include a general description of County and City permits necessary. As these may vary, it is suggested you contact the local County Planning Commission for specific requirements.

This list will be revised periodically, however, the user should be aware that there may be additional, new, or revised regulations issued after this list was compiled. We welcome any additions, and/or corrections, as well as any suggestions on how to improve this list. For more information about permitting, contact: Nevada Division of Mineral Resources, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4368.

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**STATE REQUIREMENTS**

**PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT CAMPSITE**

- Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Health/Bureau of Consumer Health Protection Services, 505 E. King St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4750
- When required . . . . . Prior to construction
- Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 30 days
- Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 5 days
- Cost of permit . . . . . None
- Public Notice required . . . . . No
- Information required . . . . . Complete plans are required for the following permits: Labor camp (NRS 444), Public bathing place (NRS 444), Mobile Home park (NRS 439.200), Camp kitchen & dining room (NRS 446), Drinking water supply (NRS 445), Recreational vehicle park (NRS 439.200), Sewage system (NRS 444), Sub-division (NRS 278).

**ENDANGERING WILDLIFE**

- Agency to contact . . . . . Nevada Department of Wildlife, 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89510; (702) 784-6214
- When required . . . . . Prior to construction and operation
- Required action . . . . . Ascertain whether or not the mining operation would endanger fish and game habitat, etc.

**STATE REQUIREMENTS (continued)**

**AIR QUALITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT**

Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4670  
When required . . . . . Prior to construction  
Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 90 days  
Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 30 days  
Cost of permit . . . . . \$10.00  
Public Notice required . . . . . Yes  
Information required . . . . . Location of source; specifications and design of source; type and quantity of air emissions; basis of data; materials used in process; air contaminant control equipment; type of combustion unit; hourly fuel consumption operating schedule; process products; flow diagram; baseline data.  
Governing statute . . . . . NRS Chapter 445

**PERMIT TO APPROPRIATE THE PUBLIC WATERS**

Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Water Resources, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4380  
When required . . . . . Prior to construction  
Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 180 days  
Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 90 days  
Cost of permit . . . . . \$35.00 (statutory filing fee)  
Public Notice required . . . . . Yes  
Information required . . . . . Location of point of diversion and place of use; use to which water will be applied; annual consumption of water.  
Governing statute . . . . . NRS Chapter 533 and 534

**PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT TAILINGS DAM**

Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Water Resources, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4380  
When required . . . . . Prior to construction  
Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 90 days  
Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 45 days  
Cost of permit . . . . . None  
Public Notice required . . . . . No  
Information required . . . . . Plans and specifications must be filed with application for any tailings dam which will be higher than 10 feet or impound more than 10 acre feet; supportive engineering study.  
Governing statute . . . . . NRS Chapter 535

**NEVADA WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PERMIT**

Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4670  
When required . . . . . Prior to operation  
Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 120 days  
Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 60 days  
Cost of permit . . . . . \$100.00 (\$25.00 for each additional permit)  
Public Notice required . . . . . Yes  
Information required . . . . . Site plan; water or treatment works to which discharge will be released.  
Governing statute . . . . . NRS Chapter 445

**AUTHORIZATION FOR DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTES**

Granting agency . . . . . Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4670  
When required . . . . . Prior to disposal of construction wastes and/or disposal of workers' solid wastes  
Maximum time to obtain . . . . . 3 months  
Minimum time to obtain . . . . . 2 weeks  
Cost of Authorization . . . . . None  
Public Notice required . . . . . No  
Information required . . . . . Site location, design and operational plan as specified in Nevada regulations governing solid waste management.

**OPENING AND CLOSING MINES**

Agency to contact ..... State Inspector of Mines, 515 E. Musser St. (mailing), 504 E. Musser St. (location), Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-5243  
When required ..... Before opening and upon closing mine operations  
Required action ..... Operators shall notify the inspector of mines; the notice must include the name and location of the mine(s); the name and address of the operator, the name of the person in charge of the operation, a statement of whether the operation will be continuous or intermittent, and upon closing, a statement of whether the closing is temporary or permanent.  
Governing statute ..... NRS Chapter 512.160

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

Agency to contact ..... Nevada Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-5138  
When required ..... Prior to actual mining  
Required action ..... Submit a legal description of the area to be disturbed so NDHPA can determine if it is within any particular state historic preservation area.

**AIR QUALITY PERMIT TO OPERATE**

Granting agency ..... Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4670  
When required ..... Prior to permanent operation  
Maximum time to obtain ..... 6 months after start-up  
Minimum time to obtain ..... 30 days  
Cost of permit ..... \$50.00 (five-year permit)  
Public Notice required ..... No  
Information required ..... Date of approval of Air Quality Permit to Construct; changes to previous applications, if any; projected date of start-up; actual date of start-up; construction drawings.  
Governing statute ..... NRS Chapter 445

**HAZARDOUS WASTE**

Agency to contact ..... Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, 201 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-4670  
Required action ..... This agency does not have any regulations in effect regarding the generation, transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of waste from the extraction, beneficiation and processing of ores and minerals. It would be advisable, however, to contact this office for a possible change or update of state or federal regulations.

**FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**USE OF BLM-ADMINISTERED LAND**

Granting agency ..... Bureau of Land Management (BLM), District Offices:  
Reno - 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520, (702) 784-5751;  
Winnemucca - 705 E. 4th St., Winnemucca, NV 89445, (702) 623-3676;  
Carson City - 1050 E. Williams St., Suite 335, Carson City, NV 89701, (702) 882-1631;  
Elko - 2002 Idaho St., P.O. Box 831, Elko, NV 89801, (702) 738-4071  
Ely - Star Route 5, Box 1, Ely, NV 89301, (702) 289-4856;  
Las Vegas - 4765 W. Vegas Dr., P.O. Box 5400, Las Vegas, NV 89102, (702) 385-6403;  
Battle Mountain - Box 194, Battle Mountain, NV 89820, (702) 635-5181.  
When required ..... Affects lands open to mining and administered by BLM (except lands under wilderness review.) The regulations incorporate three levels of operation: 1) Casual use—no notice or plan required. Designed for the part-time miner or weekend prospector who does negligible disturbance. Need not contact BLM. No use of mechanized earth-moving equipment or explosives; 2) surface disturbance less than 5 acres per year—a written letter or notice must be submitted to BLM 15 days prior to starting operations. Notice must describe the operation, location and must contain a statement that the lands will be reclaimed to the standards spelled out in the regulations. Operator must notify BLM when reclamation is completed so an inspection can be made. No approval or bonding

## FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS (continued)

necessary; 3) disturbance of more than 5 acres or if operations are proposed in Wild & Scenic River areas, areas of critical environmental control, National Wilderness Preservation System, off-road vehicle "closures", or "limited" areas (valid existing rights in areas withdrawn from mining)—plan of operation required which must describe the entire operation, equipment to be used, location of access, support facilities, drill sites, measures to prevent undue degradation and reclamation plans. BLM acknowledges receipt of plan; 30 days to act; 60-day extension if necessary; reclamation required for all operations. Bonding may be required. Appeals to Nevada State Director, BLM; Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, Dept. of the Interior, 4015 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22203.

### USE OF BLM-ADMINISTERED LAND UNDER WILDERNESS REVIEW

Granting agency . . . . . Bureau of Land Management, 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520;(702) 784-5751

When required . . . . . A plan of operations shall include appropriate environmental protection and reclamation measures selected by the authorized officer. An approved plan of operations within lands under wilderness review is required prior to commencing: 1) mining operations which involve construction of means of access, or improving or maintaining such access facilities in a way that alters the alignment, size and character of such facilities; 3) mining operations using mechanized earth-moving equipment; 4) mining operations using motorized vehicles over other than open use areas and trails, unless the use of a motorized vehicle can be covered by a temporary use permit; 5) construction or placing of any mobile, portable or fixed structure on public land for more than 30 days; 6) mining operations requiring the use of explosives; 7) any operation which may cause changes in a water course. [Not required when: 1) searching for and occasionally removing mineral samples or specimens; 2) operating motorized vehicles over open use areas and trails; 3) maintaining or making minor improvements to existing access routes or other facilities; 4) making geological, radiometric, geochemical, geophysical or other tests using instruments, devices or drilling equipment which are transported without using mechanized earth-moving equipment or vehicles.]

### TEMPORARY USE OF BLM-ADMINISTERED LAND

Granting agency . . . . . Bureau of Land Management, 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520; (702) 784-5751

When required . . . . . Prior to use

Maximum time to obtain . . . . 90 days

Minimum time to obtain . . . . 15 days

Cost of permit . . . . . Varied. Consult district BLM offices

Public Notice required . . . . . No

Information required . . . . . Location of use area; proposed use; cost of use development; archaeological and historical clearances.

### PREVENTION OF SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION

Granting agency . . . . . Environmental Protection Agency, 215 Fremont St., San Francisco, CA 94105; (415) 556-3450

When required . . . . . Prior to construction

Maximum time to obtain . . . . 1 to 1½ years

Minimum time to obtain . . . . 6 months

Cost of permit . . . . . None

Public Notice required . . . . . None

Information required . . . . . SO<sub>2</sub> and particulate emission from project; projected maximum ground level SO<sub>2</sub> and particulate concentration; baseline air quality and meteorology data ( 1 per year); emissions of hazardous pollutants; frequency of increment violations during baseline.

**RIGHT OF WAY FOR TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR**

Granting agency ..... Bureau of Land Management, 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520; (702) 784-5751  
When required ..... Prior to construction  
Maximum time to obtain .. Approximately 6 months  
Minimum time to obtain... Approximately 20 days  
Cost of permit ..... \$50.00 per mile up to 5; 5 to 20 miles, \$500.00  
Public Notice required .... Yes  
Information required ..... Corridor route; archaeological and historical clearances; methods of construction; notice of completion (within 90 days).

**ROAD ACCESS (ROW)**

Granting agency ..... Bureau of Land Management, 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520; (702) 784-5751  
When required ..... Prior to construction  
Maximum time to obtain .. Approximately 6 months  
Minimum time to obtain... Approximately 30 days  
Cost of permit ..... \$50.00 per mile up to 5; 5 to 20 miles, \$500.00  
Public Notice required .... Yes  
Information required ..... Corridor route; archaeological and historical clearances; methods of construction; notice of completion (within 90 days).

**PURCHASE, TRANSPORT, OR STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES**

Agency to contact ..... Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF), 350 S. Center St., Reno, NV 89501; (702) 784-5251  
When required ..... Before purchasing explosives outside state of residence and/or transporting them interstate  
Required action ..... Obtain permit (information concerning purchase, transport, and storage of explosives can be obtained from BATF).

**FLORA AND FAUNA**

Agency to contact ..... U.S. Forest Service (USFS), 111 N. Virginia, Reno, NV 89501; (702) 784-5331 or Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520; (702) 784-5452  
When required ..... Before beginning operations  
Required action ..... Find out the types of flora and fauna which exist in the area of operations which of those, if any, are on the endangered species list.

**NOTIFICATION OF COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATION**

Granting agency ..... Mine Safety & Health Administration, 1605 Evans Ave., Reno, NV 89507; (702) 784-5443  
When required ..... Prior to start-up  
Maximum time to obtain .. None  
Minimum time to obtain... None  
Cost of permit ..... None  
Public Notice required .... No  
Information required ..... Location; estimated commencement date; safety training; dam specifications.

**PATENTING MINING CLAIMS**

Granting agency ..... Bureau of Land Management, 300 Booth St., P.O. Box 1200, Reno, NV 89520; (702) 784-5751  
When required ..... When desired by claim holder  
Maximum time to obtain .. 2 years  
Minimum time to obtain... 15 months  
Cost of permit ..... \$25.00 filing fee and proof that not less than \$500.00 has been expended for development of each claim. Purchase Price: Lode Claim - \$5.00 per acre; Placer Claim - \$2.50 per acre.  
Public Notice required .... Yes, posted on claim and in newspapers  
Information required ..... Mineral survey plat, two copies of field notes, two copies of survey, proof of posting on claim, evidence of title, proof of citizenship, proof of publication.

## CITY/COUNTY REQUIREMENTS

**General Plan:** Many counties are governed by a general plan and have adopted special land use ordinances with regard to this general plan. Mining in some areas may be allowable by right, where in others, such as urbanized areas and agricultural and housing districts, it may be prohibited.

**Building Permit:** Prior to construction of any structure, many counties require the issuance of a building permit. Cost of the permit may vary depending on extent and type of construction. There must be prior approval for construction from the Nevada State Health Division.

**Special Use Permit:** Various counties require special use permits in relation to mining activities. A full description of all phases of the proposed operation is required. Cost of the permit may vary among counties. Public notice is generally required.

**Zoning Change:** A description of the proposed mining operation is required for a zoning change for industrial use. Often in open use zones, a special use permit may be required. Public notice is generally required.

**Business License:** Various city/county governments require a license prior to any firm, person, association or corporation engaging in any business activities.