

Mining Sustainability Meeting
February 7, 2006
Great Basin College HTC 137
Ely – GBC 111
Battle Mountain – BM 3
Winnemucca GBC 108
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Elaine Barkdull	Paul Killpatrick
Ann Carpenter	Charlene Mitchel
Norm Cavanaugh	Jay Paxson
Sherry Eklund-Brown	Michele Schack
Heather Estes	Jerry Smith
Cathie Jensen	Zach Spencer
Dan Johnson	Mary Swetich
Brad Kelley	

1. Review Minutes – The minutes of the last NNP-E meeting on November 15, 2005 were approved.
2. Lone Tree Update – Jeff White is in Winnemucca today. He emailed Paul the status of the decommissioning of Lone Tree. Mining will cease at Lone Tree in August 2006, but milling will continue for many months as they work through the stockpiled ore. Heap leaching will continue for many years after mining has ended. A Lone Tree Complex Closure Coalition is being formed with meetings and initial outreach to potential participants. We need to be involved with the closure in some capacity. Jerry Smith says as soon as a workshop is put together in Winnemucca we will have a coalition (Gold Belt Coalition). Jim Collard volunteered to mc the workshop when the workshop is scheduled.
3. ECEDA Update – Elaine Barkdull reported the County approved the purchase of the Ellison ranch. Moving forward with the transloading facility and industrial park. We already have letters of interest from two companies. All of Northeastern Nevada will benefit from the facility. The rail port committee will start meeting again. ECEDA is still identifying workforce shortages and issues. The ECEDA workforce committee has met about 6 times and is a popular group. A business retention and expansion program is something that ECEDA is researching. ECEDA will start working with existing businesses in finding alternative customers. Recruitment efforts continue. Infrastructure grants for Wells and Carlin are being investigated.
4. Winnemucca Update – Heather Estes said meeting was well received. Many people from City and County attended. The workshop should be happening sometime in the spring. The group will meet again to plan the workshop. The three years that

the college has been involved with this group, and we are finally obtaining goals of making a regional group. Need to determine what some projects or concerns in Ely, Winnemucca and Battle Mountain and how NNP-E can help.

5. New Business

- Sherry Eklund–Brown commented on the Hill Air Force Base wanting to expand their air space over Elko and White Pine County. Elko County is opposing the increased air space, as is White Pine County. Increasing the air space would affect economic development and impact the economy and environment. The Counties would loose money on the taxes collected from commercial flights that are charged a tax for flying over our air space because the military will require permission for flights going into their air space. Power plant stacks currently being developed would be higher that what the military allows. Mary Swetich said that it's important that both counties work together on this issue for a united front.
- Ann Carpenter is now president of US Gold Corporation which has Tonkin Springs. Tonkin Springs is located in Eureka County at the south end of Cortez Mountain. Rawhide is a deep open pit that was purchased as a possible waste facility site. Ann would be open to having ECEDA look at bringing in site selectors to look at 2 or 3 mines to determine the resources. Then a data base of all the information could be created to use later date by interested groups. Need to look ahead. A new mine plan will be developed down the road. Anne has continues to be involved with the Nevada Mining Coalition.
- The Lander County Group developed a questionnaire to do an inventory to determine what is available; what infrastructure can remain after closure; how may acres; and when is it available for future use? Talked about putting the inventory on a website to use it to market the sites in the future. Site inventories should be done regionally. Dirk is putting together a website to share all of this information. ECEDA is already linked to industrial lands available. Existing link currently being utilized with SPPCO. Questionnaire is available on SPPCO website.
- Lander County Outreach group working on sustainable development group. Public meetings were held this week to move forward with a Lander County Public Lands Bill. They are using the Lincoln County Land Bill as an example. Need opportunities to make land available for county infrastructure. They are also looking at an ATV trail, making land available for sale, and corridors for power.
- Winnemucca – it would be helpful to have some people from the NNP-E committee to come over for the workshop.

- Dan Johnson said when completing a resource assessment for a utility scale wind project, the anemometers that NSOE loans out are sufficient for prospecting. However, in order to complete a resource assessment for actual installation of a utility scale project, it is necessary to gather data at the hub height of the proposed wind tower. In general this is in the neighborhood of 60-100 meters. This is not a requirement of any Federal Law; it is an industry standard technical requirement to insure that a sufficient resource is available for a successful project.
- Zach Spencer reported that the Newmont Board of Directors approved a power plant addition that would add 203 megawatts to the grid. The power plant will probably out live the mines.
- Sherry Eklund-Brown said that we should have some great recreational trail systems to link the counties with the California Trails Interpretive Center and ATV trails. Carlin will be building an equestrian center. Great sign for sustainability. Exploration for oil, gas, uranium and other minerals are happening in our counties. An Idaho mining company is or will be mining Molegdemum in Eureka County.
- The next NNP-E meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2006 at noon.