



Nevada Has World-Class Environmental and Bonding Regulations for Mining

NDEP Regulations Guarantee Nevada's Mines will Not Become Future Environmental Problems Like Anaconda Yerington

Nevada's Mining Regulation and Reclamation Bonding Program Provides Stringent Environmental Protection and Complete Financial Assurance

Program Currently Has \$3.2 Billion in Bonds for Nevada Mines

- Nevada mines must comply with the NV Department of Environmental Protection's (NDEP's) comprehensive environmental protection and reclamation standards that effectively safeguard the environment and guarantee mines will be properly closed and reclaimed.
- Nevada's reclamation bonding requirements are expressly designed to provide NDEP with funds to reclaim a mine if an operator goes bankrupt or defaults.
 - Bond amounts are based on detailed site-specific calculations of what it would cost NDEP to hire government contractors to reclaim a site.
 - NDEP may require long-term bonds for water treatment, monitoring, or other needs.
- NDEP substantially modified and expanded the bonding program after bankruptcies at Anaconda Yerington and several other mines in the late 1990s - early 2000s revealed additional bonding was needed due to potential emergency situations unique to bankrupt sites.
 - NDEP and the mining industry worked together to refine the bonding program so NDEP now has the financial resources to address all contingencies and to reclaim a bankrupt site.
 - Bond funds are readily available to mobilize emergency management contractors to ensure environmental protection continues at bankrupt mine facilities.
- Reclamation bonds must be updated at least every three years to keep pace with inflation and whenever a mine plan is modified or expanded.

Monitoring, Reporting, and Inspection Data Provide Real-Time Information to Verify Mines are Complying with Environmental Permit Requirements

- Frequently collected air quality, groundwater, surface water and other monitoring data provide early detection of potential problems so they can be quickly investigated and mitigated.
- NDEP requires mine operators to address any permit exceedance, remediate any environmental issues, and may require additional bonding to guarantee proper clean up.
- Unlike old, pre-regulations mines where there was no environmental baseline data and environmental problems went unrecognized and unabated for many years, modern NV mines must collect detailed environmental data to continually verify they are protecting the environment.

In 2018 the US EPA Determined that Modern Regulatory and Bonding Programs Ensure Today's Mines Will Not Become Tomorrow's Environmental Problems

BLM, the Forest Service and Other States & Countries Use Nevada's Bonding Program

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