

EXHIBIT 12

Letters to Tribes Soliciting Comments
on the Thacker Pass Lithium Project
Draft EIS

AR-045411

TPEIS-0375

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AR-045412

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



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 Humboldt River Field Office
 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
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 Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1740
 Email: wfweb@blm.gov
<https://www.blm.gov/office/winnemucca-district-office>

In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 0001 2494 2045
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairman Tildon Smart
 Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe
 PO Box 457
 McDermitt, NV 89421

Dear Honorable Chairman Smart,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Winnemucca District has developed a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to analyze a proposal by the Lithium Nevada Corporation to construct an open pit lithium mining operation on public lands managed by the BLM in the vicinity of Thacker Pass. The project area is located in northern Humboldt County, Nevada, approximately 20 miles northwest of Oroville, 62 miles northwest of Winnemucca, and 24 miles southwest of McDermitt, Nevada.

The DEIS was developed as part of the BLM's National Environment Policy Act compliance responsibilities to assess the impacts of project proposals. The DEIS analyzes four project alternatives in the proposed action, two variations of the proposed action, and a no action alternative. All four alternatives are fully described in the DEIS, but in general the project proposes the following facilities and activities:

- Development of an 1100-acre/230 million cubic yard open pit mine. Pit dewatering would not be expected to be required as part of the project until 2055;

- Concurrent backfill of the open pit with 220 million cubic yards of waste material;
- Construction of two Waste Rock Storage Facilities totaling 46 million cubic yards;
- Construction of a 48.3-acre/0.5 million cubic yard Run-of-Mine stockpile;
- Construction of a processor to separate the lithium from low-grade material;
- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities to produce lithium products;
- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
- Construction and operation of an 1166-acre Clay Tailings Filter Stack to store clay tailings, neutralization solids, and various salts generated during lithium processing;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities designed to produce lithium carbonate, lithium hydroxide monohydrate, lithium sulfide, lithium metal, and solid-state lithium batteries;
- Construction of water supply facilities including two supply wells, two booster pump stations, a water pump tank station, and underground water pipeline;
- Construction of a seven mile 25-kilovolt (kV) power transmission line from a new substation installed in the process plant area to the raw water supply facilities to the east, and a two-mile power transmission line to new mine area substations to the west;
- Construction and maintenance ancillary facilities including haul roads, stormwater diversions and sediment ponds, growth media stockpiles, septic systems, communication towers, guard sheds, reclaim ponds, and fencing; and
- Construction of 300 acres of mine exploration facilities including roads, drill pads, trenches, bulk excavation samples, geotechnical/geophysical investigations, water exploration, and monitoring well installation.

A copy of the DEIS for the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project is enclosed with this letter. The document can also be viewed online at the website below:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1503166/510>

The BLM is committed to coordinating and consulting with any affected tribes on all proposed projects on BLM-managed federal lands. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Executive Orders 13007 and 13175, and Secretarial Order 3317, our communication and consultation are essential. The purpose of consultation is to identify and consider the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by BLM actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests. Any information brought forth during the consultation process will be kept confidential to the extent allowed by law.

You are invited to submit comments on the proposed project for the next 35 days from the date of this letter. My staff and I would also be glad to meet with you and your Council to consult on any issues surrounding this project. If you or your designated representative would like to arrange a consultation meeting or find out more about this project please contact Tanner Whetstone by email at twhetstone@blm.gov or by phone at 775-623-1791. I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045415

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Winnemucca District Office
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 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
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In Reply Refer To:
 3809/1780 (NVW030.02)
 DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 10001 2494 2045
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairman Tildon Smart
 Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe
 PO Box 457
 McDermitt, NV 89421

Dear Honorable Chairman Smart,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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- Construction of two Waste Rock Storage Facilities totaling 46 million cubic yards;
- Construction of a 48.3-acre/0.5 million cubic yard Run-of-Mine stockpile;
- Construction of a processor to separate the lithium from low-grade material;
- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities to produce lithium products;
- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
- Construction and operation of an 1166-acre Clay Tailings Filter Stack to store clay tailings, neutralization solids, and various salts generated during lithium processing;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities designed to produce lithium carbonate, lithium hydroxide monohydrate, lithium sulfide, lithium metal, and solid-state lithium batteries;
- Construction of water supply facilities including two supply wells, two booster pump stations, a water pump tank station, and underground water pipeline;
- Construction of a seven mile 25-kilovolt (kV) power transmission line from a new substation installed in the process plant area to the raw water supply facilities to the east, and a two-mile power transmission line to new mine area substations to the west;
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Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Rehberg

Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045418

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Winnemucca District Office
 Humboldt River Field Office
 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
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In Reply Refer To:
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JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 0001 2494 2021
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairman Anthony Sampson
 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 PO Box 256
 Nixon, NV 89424

Dear Honorable Chairman Sampson,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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- Construction of a processor to separate the lithium from low-grade material;
- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities to produce lithium products;
- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
- Construction and operation of an 1166-acre Clay Tailings Filter Stack to store clay tailings, neutralization solids, and various salts generated during lithium processing;
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Sincerely,



Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior



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 Humboldt River Field Office
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Chairman Anthony Sampson
 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 PO Box 256
 Nixon, NV 89424

Dear Honorable Chairman Sampson,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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CALIFORNIA*, NEVADA*, OREGON*

* PARTIAL

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Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Rehberg

Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045424

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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 Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1740
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In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 6001 2494 2038
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Barbara Aleck
 Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 PO Box 256
 Nixon, NV 89424

Dear Ms. Aleck,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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Sincerely,



Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure



AR-045427

United States Department of the Interior



TPEIS-0375

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca District Office

Humboldt River Field Office

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Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1740

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Barbara Aleck
 Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
 Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe
 PO Box 256
 Nixon, NV 89424

Dear Ms. Aleck,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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The DEIS was developed as part of the BLM's National Environment Policy Act compliance responsibilities to assess the impacts of project proposals. The DEIS analyzes four project alternatives in the proposed action, two variations of the proposed action, and a no action alternative. All four alternatives are fully described in the DEIS, but in general the project proposes the following facilities and activities:

- Development of an 1100-acre/230 million cubic yard open pit mine. Pit dewatering would not be expected to be required as part of the project until 2055;

- Concurrent backfill of the open pit with 220 million cubic yards of waste material;
- Construction of two Waste Rock Storage Facilities totaling 46 million cubic yards;
- Construction of a 48.3-acre/0.5 million cubic yard Run-of-Mine stockpile;
- Construction of a processor to separate the lithium from low-grade material;
- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities to produce lithium products;
- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
- Construction and operation of an 1166-acre Clay Tailings Filter Stack to store clay tailings, neutralization solids, and various salts generated during lithium processing;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities designed to produce lithium carbonate, lithium hydroxide monohydrate, lithium sulfide, lithium metal, and solid-state lithium batteries;
- Construction of water supply facilities including two supply wells, two booster pump stations, a water pump tank station, and underground water pipeline;
- Construction of a seven mile 25-kilovolt (kV) power transmission line from a new substation installed in the process plant area to the raw water supply facilities to the east, and a two-mile power transmission line to new mine area substations to the west;
- Construction and maintenance ancillary facilities including haul roads, stormwater diversions and sediment ponds, growth media stockpiles, septic systems, communication towers, guard sheds, reclaim ponds, and fencing; and
- Construction of 300 acres of mine exploration facilities including roads, drill pads, trenches, bulk excavation samples, geotechnical/geophysical investigations, water exploration, and monitoring well installation.

A copy of the DEIS for the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project is enclosed with this letter. The document can also be viewed online at the website below:

<https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/1503166/510>

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You are invited to submit comments on the proposed project for the next 35 days from the date of this letter. My staff and I would also be glad to meet with you and your Council to consult on any issues surrounding this project. If you or your designated representative would like to arrange a consultation meeting or find out more about this project please contact Tanner Whetstone by email at twhetstone@blm.gov or by phone at 775-623-1791. I look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Rehberg

Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045430

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Winnemucca District Office
 Humboldt River Field Office
 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard
 Winnemucca, Nevada 89445
 Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1740
 Email: wfoweb@blm.gov
www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html

In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2286 0001 2494 2014
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle
 Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
 1001 Rock Boulevard
 Sparks, NV 89431

Dear Honorable Chairwoman Lone Eagle,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
- Construction and operation of lithium processing facilities to produce lithium products;
- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
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Sincerely,

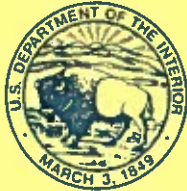


Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045433

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca District Office

Humboldt River Field Office

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Email: wfoweb@blm.gov

www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/wfo.html

In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 0001 2494 2014
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairwoman Randi Lone Eagle
 Summit Lake Paiute Tribe
 1001 Rock Boulevard
 Sparks, NV 89431

Dear Honorable Chairwoman Lone Eagle,

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- Construction of a 318.3-acre/48 million cubic yard low-grade material stockpile;
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- Construction of a sulfuric acid plant to generate sulfuric acid for use in a leaching process, and also generate steam for energy to provide power to mine facilities;
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Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Rehberg

Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045436

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 Winnemucca District Office
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In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL 7019 2280 0001 2494 2052
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Chairwoman Judy Rojo
 Winnemucca Indian Colony
 595 Humboldt Street
 Reno, NV 89509

Dear Honorable Chairwoman Rojo,

The purpose of this letter is to request assistance from your tribe in identifying the cultural values, religious beliefs, sacred places, and traditional practices of Native American people which could be affected by Bureau of Land Management (BLM) actions on public lands, and where feasible to seek opinions and agreement on measures to protect those tribal interests.

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Kathleen Rehberg
Acting Field Manager
Humboldt River Field Office

Enclosure

AR-045439

TPEIS-0375



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca District Office

Humboldt River Field Office

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Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

Phone: (775) 623-1500 Fax: (775) 623-1740

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In Reply Refer To:

3809/1780 (NVW030.02)

DOI-BLM-NV-W010-2020-0012-EIS

JUL 29 2020

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 Reno, NV 89509

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