

Corporation, El Paso Natural Gas Company LLC, and Homestake Mining Company of California (collectively, the “mining companies”) at the San Mateo Uranium Mine Site in Cibola County, New Mexico (the “Site”). The Site is largely located within the Cibola National Forest, which is land managed by the United States Forest Service (“USFS”), a sub-agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”). Pursuant to its authority under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (“CERCLA”), 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*, the USFS issued a unilateral administrative order (“UAO”) to the mining companies requiring them to perform response actions to address the hazardous substances at the Site. In 2015, the mining companies filed a complaint against the United States under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607, seeking to recover the response costs incurred by the mining companies in implementing the UAO. The United States filed a counterclaim on behalf of the USFS, USDA, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) against the mining companies under Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607 and 9613, for the United States’ past and future response costs at the Site.

The proposed Consent Decree would resolve claims and counterclaims asserted by the mining companies and the United States. The United States will pay \$1.595 million to the mining companies and the mining companies will pay \$25,000 to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund (“Superfund”). The United States covenants to not sue the mining companies under Section 106 or 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9606 and 9607, for past and future work by the mining companies related to implementation of the UAO or the United States’ response costs. The mining companies will be entitled to protection from contribution actions or claims under Section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9613(f)(2), for matters addressed in the proposed Consent Decree. Pursuant to the proposed Consent Decree, the mining companies covenant not to bring any claims against the United States for the work related to implementation of the UAO, other response actions, the United States’ response costs, or the mining companies’ response costs. The USFS, USDA, and the United States Department of Energy, as settling federal agencies, agree not to assert a claim for reimbursement from the Superfund with respect to work related to the

implementation of the UAO, past response actions, United States response costs, or the mining companies’ response costs.

The publication of this notice opens a period for public comment on the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and should refer to *United Nuclear Corp., et al., v. United States of America*, D.J. Ref. No. 90–11–3–11380. All comments must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the publication date of this notice. Comments may be submitted either by email or by mail:

| <i>To submit comments:</i> | <i>Send them to:</i> |
|----------------------------|---|
| By email | pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov . |
| By mail | Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611. |

During the public comment period, the Consent Decree may be examined and downloaded at this Justice Department Web site: <http://www.justice.gov/enrd/consent-decrees>. We will provide a paper copy of the proposed Consent Decree upon written request and payment of reproduction costs. Please mail your request and payment to: Consent Decree Library, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611.

Please enclose a check or money order for \$24.00 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the United States Treasury.

Thomas P. Carroll,

Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Proposed Consent Decree Under the Clean Water Act

On September 27, 2017, the Department of Justice lodged a proposed Consent Decree with the United States District Court for the District of Nevada in the lawsuit entitled *United States and the State of Nevada v. The City of North Las Vegas*, Civil Action No. 2:17–cv–02508.

In this action, the United States and the State of Nevada filed a complaint alleging claims against the City of North Las Vegas (City) for the City’s violations

of Sections 307 and 308 of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. 1317–1318, the terms of the City’s National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit (NPDES permit), federal pretreatment regulations found at 40 CFR 403, and State laws NRS 445A.500–530.

The proposed settlement requires the City to comply with its NPDES permit issued under the CWA, the federal pretreatment regulations (40 CFR 403) and State laws NRS 445A.500–530. The proposed settlement also requires the City to submit its recently developed pretreatment program to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for final approval and to pay a civil penalty amount of \$385,000 to be divided equally between the United States and the State.

The publication of this notice opens a period for public comment on the proposed Consent Decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division and should refer to *United States and the State of Nevada v. The City of North Las Vegas*, Civil Action No. 2:17–cv–02508, D.J. Ref. No. 90–5–1–1–11443. All comments must be submitted no later than thirty (30) days after the publication date of this notice. Comments may be submitted either by email or by mail:

| <i>To submit comments:</i> | <i>Send them to:</i> |
|----------------------------|---|
| By email | pubcomment-ees.enrd@usdoj.gov . |
| By mail | Assistant Attorney General, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611. |

During the public comment period, the proposed Consent Decree may be examined and downloaded at this Justice Department Web site: <https://www.justice.gov/enrd/consent-decrees>. We will provide a paper copy of the proposed Consent Decree upon written request and payment of reproduction costs. Please mail your request and payment to: Consent Decree Library, U.S. DOJ—ENRD, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044–7611.

Please enclose a check or money order for \$7.75 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the United States Treasury.

Henry Friedman,

Assistant Section Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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