



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Mr. Doug Furtado Bureau of Land Management 50 Bastian Road Battle Mountain, NV 89820

Subject: Cortez Hills Expansion Project Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), Lander County, Nevada [CEQ # 20110007]

Dear Mr. Furtado:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above referenced document. Our review and comments are provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations at 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Final SEIS and the Bureau of Land Management's responses to our October 1, 2010 comments on the Draft SEIS. We have no further comments at this time. If you have any questions, please have your staff call Jeanne Geselbracht at (415) 972-3853.

Sincerely,

/s/

Kathleen M. Goforth, Manager Environmental Review Office

Cc: David Gaskin, Nevada Division of Environmental Protection