

# **Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources Division of Minerals**

## ***Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources***

The members of the Commission advise the Governor and Legislature on mineral resource issues of importance to Nevada. The Commission is made up of six individuals who represent different sectors of Nevada's mining and energy industries and one individual who represents the general public. The Commissioners are appointed by the Governor and serve four year terms. They establish policy for Division of Minerals and have regulatory authority to set fees charged by the Division on certain mineral industry activity.

## ***Division of Minerals***

The mission of Division of Minerals is to be responsible for administering programs and activities to promote, advance, and protect mining and the development and production of petroleum and geothermal resources in Nevada. The Division administers programs and activities to further the responsible development and production of the state's mineral

resources to benefit and provide for the welfare of all the people of the State of Nevada.

## ***Organization***

The Division of Minerals consists of the following:

- Administrator's office,
- Abandoned Mine Lands program.
- Bond Pool program,
- Education program,
- Mining program, and
- Oil, Gas, and Geothermal program.

## ***Administrator's Office***

The Administrator is selected by the Commission to administer all activities of the division and to serve as a liaison between state government and the mineral industry, federal agencies, professional organizations and the general public. The Division maintains offices in Carson City and Las Vegas.

## ***Abandoned Mine Lands Program (AML)***

The function of this program is to implement public safety activities related to hazardous abandoned mines; identify and rank dangerous conditions which resulted from

mining practices that took place at mines that are no longer operating; and notify the owners of their responsibility to safely secure the mine sites. Program staff secure dangerous orphaned sites as identified and have an ongoing program using the theme "Stay Out and Stay Alive" to educate the public to recognize and avoid hazards in and around abandoned mines.

## ***Bond Pool Program***

The Division of Minerals administers the Nevada State Reclamation Bond Pool. Mining operators are generally required to post a reclamation bond prior to beginning work. The bond pool was created by the Nevada Legislature in 1989 as a mechanism for those needing bonding, but unable to obtain it through regular commercial means. The bond pool is self-funded. Participants in the pool pay a deposit of 15 per cent of the bond amount at the time of entry into the pool and quarterly premiums thereafter.

## ***Education Program***

A major function of the Division is to promote the minerals industry and the importance of mineral resources in everyday life. The Division has been instrumental in developing a

wide range of educational materials for grade levels K-12 that are in use statewide. The Division co-sponsors minerals education workshops twice yearly and performs numerous classroom presentations and activity sessions across the state. Nevada's minerals education program is recognized as one of the best in the nation.

### **Mining Program**

The Division is responsible for maintaining the official state mine registry. Statistics regarding the state's mineral production and exploration activity are compiled and provided to the Governor, the Legislature, and the public. The Division is an advocate of responsible mining, and works closely with government regulators, industry, and the public on issues affecting mining and exploration. Division staff are always happy to provide information about mining related topics.

### ***Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Program***

The function of this program is to permit, inspect, and monitor all oil, gas, and geothermal drilling activities on both public and private lands in Nevada. Staff also monitor the production of oil, gas, and geothermal resources to ensure proper management and

conservation. The Administrator is the Governor's official representative to the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC). The membership of IOGCC consists of all the oil and gas states and is dedicated to efficient production and prevention of waste.



## **Nevada Commission on Mineral Resources Division of Minerals**

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