

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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**ENVIRONMENTAL
QUALITY COUNCIL**

APPLICANT: Stillwater Mining Company

TYPE OF OPERATION: Underground Platinum/Palladium 5400 East Minor Revision

LOCATION: Nye, Montana

COUNTY: Stillwater

PERSON PREPARING E.A.: Joe Gurrieri

APPLICATION COMPLETE: October 20, 1991
Date

E.A. COMPLETE: March 9, 1992
Date

	POTENTIAL IMPACTS					
	A	B	C	LONG TERM	SHORT TERM	AMPLIFICATION
PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>TOPOGRAPHY</u>			X			
2. <u>GEOLOGY</u> ; Stability			X			
3. <u>SOILS</u> ; Quality, Distribution			X		X	Less disturbance with increased topsoil salvage depths.
4. <u>WATER</u> ; Quality; Quantity; Distribution			X			
5. <u>AIR</u> ; Quality			X			
6. <u>UNIQUE, ENDANGERED, FRAGILE, or LIMITED</u> environmental resources			X			
BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>TERRESTRIAL, AVIAN, and AQUATIC</u> ; species and habitats			X			
2. <u>VEGETATION</u> ; quantity, quality, species			X			
3. <u>AGRICULTURE</u> ; grazing, crops production			X			
HUMAN ENVIRONMENT						
1. <u>SOCIAL</u> ; structures and mores			X			
2. <u>CULTURAL</u> uniqueness, diversity			X			
3. <u>POPULATION</u> ; quantity and diversity			X			
4. <u>HOUSING</u> ; quantity and distribution			X			
5. <u>HUMAN HEALTH & SAFETY</u>			X			

	POTENTIAL IMPACTS					
	A	B	C	LONG TERM	SHORT TERM	AMPLIFICATION
6. <u>COMMUNITY & PERSONAL INCOME</u>			X			
7. <u>EMPLOYMENT</u> ; quantity and distribution			X			
8. <u>TAX BASE</u> ; local and state tax revenue			X			
9. <u>GOVERNMENT SERVICES</u> ; demand			X			
10. <u>INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL</u> and <u>AGRICULTURAL</u> activities			X			
11. <u>HISTORICAL</u> and <u>ARCHAEOLOGICAL</u>			X			
12. <u>AESTHETICS</u>			X	X		Portal relocation provides visual screening from valley residents.
13. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL PLANS</u> and <u>GOALS</u> ; local and regional			X			
14. <u>DEMANDS</u> on <u>ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES</u> of land, water, air and energy			X			
15. <u>TRANSPORTATION</u> ; networks and traffic flows			X			

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Minor change; DSL staff considered issues and impacts

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED: Approval or Denial

COMPLIANCE STATUS: SMC in good standing

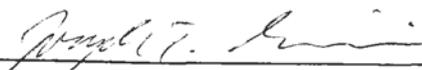
RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING PREPARATION OF AN EIS: Not necessary at this level of disturbance

OTHER GROUPS OR AGENCIES CONTACTED OR WHICH MAY HAVE OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION:

U.S. Forest Service

INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS CONTRIBUTING TO THIS EA: Pat Plantenberg, Jo Stephen, Joe Gurrieri, Pat Pierson (FS)

- A: Significant Unavoidable Impacts
- B: Insignificant as a result of conditioned mitigation
- C: Insignificant as proposed


Signature