

DIVISION OF RECLAMATION, MINING AND SAFETY

Department of Natural Resources

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NEWS RELEASE

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Mining Board schedules uranium rulemaking

Deadlines for written comments, requests for party status announced

DENVER, Colo. – The Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board will consider new rules and amendments proposed by the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety regarding uranium mining, permit fees and the disclosure of prospecting information this spring.

The Division submitted the necessary paperwork for the rulemaking with the Secretary of State's Office on January 26.

The rulemaking is primarily being conducted to implement three bills the General Assembly passed in 2008. House Bill 08-1161 concerns reclamation standards for in-situ uranium mining. Senate Bill 08-228 establishes provisions regarding information about prospecting operations. Senate Bill 08-169 concerns fees for certain hardrock mining operations. In addition, the proposed rules implement fees the General Assembly passed in 2007 in Senate Bill 07-185.

The Board may accept, reject or modify any or all of the Division's proposed rules and amendments, or may propose its own rules and amendments

A draft of the proposed rules, along with a Statement of Basis, Specific Authority and Purpose, may be found at the DRMS web site at:

<http://mining.state.co.us/Rulemaking.htm>.

Hard copies may also be obtained for \$20 from the DRMS office at 1313 Sherman Street, Room 215, Denver, Colo. 80203. A CD of the proposed rules is \$5.

Public participation in this rulemaking is encouraged. The following are several key dates for those wishing to participate in this process:

- **February 23, 2010** – Deadline for requests for party status.
- **March 1, 2010** – Deadline for written public comments by non-parties. Comments must include name, address, email address and telephone number.
- **March 12, 2010** – Deadline for parties to submit Prehearing Statements, Prehearing Motions and Alternate Proposed Rules.
- **March 23, 2010** – Deadline for parties to submit Rebuttal Statements and Responses to Prehearing Motions.
- **April 6, 2010** – Prehearing Conference, Denver Art Museum. This hearing is mandatory for anyone granted formal party status.
- **April 15, 2010** – Rulemaking hearing commences with public comment by non-parties at the Mined Land Reclamation Board's hearing, to be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, CO 80538. Those non-parties who want the Board to review written comments in conjunction with their oral public comments must submit the written material by the March 1 deadline for submission of written comments.

Additional public comment sessions may be scheduled at a later date.

Throughout the rulemaking process, the Division website will provide formal notice to interested persons and parties regarding important dates, pre-hearing orders, filing deadlines, and other information concerning the rulemaking hearing and process.

Requests for Party Status and written comments must comply with the filing and service requirements set forth in the Notice of Public Rulemaking Hearing. As stated in the Notice, Requests for Party Status and written comments may be submitted to:

Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board
Attn: Irene Stanton
1313 Sherman Street, Room 215
Denver, CO 80203

Comments may also be submitted electronically to: Irene.Stanton@state.co.us Please refer to the Notice of Public Rulemaking Hearing for additional filing and service requirements.

A copy of the complete *Notice of Public Rulemaking Hearing* containing this and other relevant information is attached.

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Attachments: *DRMS-Notice of Rulemaking.pdf*